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STURUA SEES WIDE-RANGING VIEWS ON SALT-II IN U.S. SENATE

LD161125 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent Sturua report: "Struggle of Passions"]

[Text] The news of the forthcoming June summit meeting in Vienna between Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President J. Carter and also the report that agreement in principle has been achieved on the main questions of the SALT-II treaty presently dominate life in the American capital. They are the main subject of complex and intricate political reconnoiterings in the Washington corridors of power, in particular on Capitol Hill, where the U.S. Congress sits. They are the main topic in international reviews in the press and on television. They are--and this is particularly important--dominating the thoughts of the "man in the street." Yes, America is beginning to be permeated with awareness of the importance of what is happening.

The report on the meeting acted as a kind of gong at whose sound forces in favor of SALT-II and forces trying to undermine it started to come together in the U.S. political ring. These forces are by no means equal. The majority of ordinary Americans are in favor of limiting the nuclear arms race and achieving a corresponding treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union.

"It is hard to name any other question, any other problem, on which such significant and constant unanimity would be observed," I was told by George Gallup, the famous "temperature gauge" of U.S. public opinion, who I called on in Princeton, where his world-famous institute is located.

The facts and figures convincingly support his statement. According to polls carried out by the Gallup, Harris and Yankelovich institutes and the major television companies and news agencies, the number of Americans in favor of SALT-II hovers constantly somewhere between 75 and 81 percent. In U.S. conditions, where fragmentation of individual citizens' views is in the order of things, such results are really astonishing.

But the inequality of the forces for and against SALT-II certainly does not mean that the struggle between them will not be bitter and intense. The opponents of curbing the nuclear arms race fight not by numbers but by skill. At their disposal are a huge propaganda machine, a well-organized lobby and--most important--inexhaustible financial resources. The military-industrial complex does not stint on expenses when it is a question of a threat to its profits and policy.

I have recently visited the headquarters of organizations opposed to SALT-II--the "Committee on the Present Danger" and the "Coalition for Peace Through Strength." A large staff, using computers, sends out propaganda literature to millions of addresses and follows on electronic displays and attached television screens the "movement of sentiments" of voters whose representatives in the Senate could play a decisive role in the debates on and ratification of the SALT-II treaty. They are moving in the heavy, long-range propaganda artillery--from the hard-line General Haig to the "skeptic" Kissinger.

I also visited the headquarters of quite different public organizations--those which are in favor of SALT-II. Small rooms, a small staff, no computers. But what enthusiasm! These organizations--"The American Committee for East-West Accord," "Americans for SALT," the "Center for Defense Information"--have literally taken heart and gotten, as they say, their second wind.

On the very day of the announcement on the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting many veterans of the struggle for SALT-II gathered in the Capitol Hill garden, on the premises of the "Peace Foundation." They were all in an elated mood, congratulating each other. The director of the "Center for Defense Information" and my old acquaintances Admiral Larocque and Herbert Scoville, who worked on disarmament problems back in the Johnson administration, told me how they are all in demand now--their consultations are required everywhere and interviews are requested.

Now that the signing of the SALT-II treaty is not so very far away, a dramatic battle is unfurling in Washington for its ratification in the U.S. Senate. As is known, to ratify the agreement a qualifying two-thirds majority is needed. The distribution of forces is not yet clear.

While the chances of signing a SALT-II treaty were problematic, the "hawks'" position looked relatively firm. Now, in the light of the forthcoming Vienna meeting, the picture has begun to change. In the face of a dilemma--either the ratification of SALT-II or a new spiral of an unrestrained arms race with all the ensuing consequences, such as the threat to security and to taxpayers' pockets--many senators are taking a second look. The more so as the presidential and congressional elections are just around the corner. As Republican Senator Robert Dole admits, "anyone who tries to ride into the White House on the steed of opposition to SALT-II risks losing the ground from under his feet. Dole was also forced to admit that opposition to SALT-II "is becoming more and more difficult" and that its opponents are beginning to look like "warmongers." And if the public's sentiments, as discussed above, are taken into account, this is a very dangerous luxury. Not for nothing did two senators from Delaware--Joseph Biden and William Roth--ask for consultations with Warnke, former head of the American Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and--most important--checked on sentiments in their state. The poll showed: 71 percent of Delaware residents favor SALT-II. It is interesting that even Senator Moynihan, who can hardly be suspected of sympathies toward the Soviet Union, said: "I want to vote for SALT-II." And he said it--where do you think?--at a session of such a Zionist forum as the American Jewish Committee.

The administration's stance on SALT-II had hitherto been passive. The opposition held the initiative. Now the administration has begun to "stir itself." Its leading representatives, including Secretary of State Vance, Defense Secretary Brown and others, have stepped up their activity in favor of SALT-II. Hamilton Jordan, the President's closest assistant and virtual chief of the White House staff, has been appointed coordinator of this activity.

President Carter is taking a very direct part in this activity. In his speeches he is stressing the vital importance of SALT-II.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has provisionally scheduled the SALT-II hearings for the end of June, that is immediately after the summit meeting. The committee's new chairman, Senator Church, who up to that point had preferred not to divulge his position, addressed the International Council for Research and Exchange and said that the rejection of SALT-II would bring the world closer to nuclear catastrophe.

Here are the views of some other influential senators. Deputy Senate Majority Leader Alan Cranston: "I think the treaty will be ratified." Judiciary Committee Chairman, Senator Edward Kennedy: "The burden rests on the shoulders of those who oppose the treaty. Let them try to prove that U.S. security could be strengthened by means of a SALT-II failure." Chairman of the Armed Services Committee Senator John Stennis says that he has "not yet taken sides." Senator Hayakawa fears that the failure of SALT-II, through the fault of the United States, may "provide the Soviet Union with a massive propaganda victory, it appearing as the defender of peace and we as warmongers." Texan Senator Tower is categorically against ratification. [paragraph continues]

Senator Jackson continues to believe that SALT-II "gives the Soviets an advantage and needs to be amended."

As we can see, the range of views is very wide. The SALT-II opponents who have not finally burned their bridges by opposing all reasonable forms of nuclear arms race limitation are maneuvering. Some cling to the monitoring problem andothers try to wring from the administration the maximum number of concessions as payment for SALT-II, concessions in the form of extra appropriations for the kinds of arms which will not be covered by the future treaty. The favorite among these is the MX missile. Still others would like to recarve, in accordance with their own ideas, a draft agreement which has taken so much effort to draw up andagree on, and they cite the "Panama treaty." (The treaty on the Panama Canal was ratified by the Senate after amendments which it introducedunilaterally). It would be most apt and not without just irony to remind these "carvers" that the Soviet Union is not Panama.

Finally, there is another category of treaty opponents. Their slogan is "SALT-II but without detente." Fearing that they will not succeed in blocking the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, they want the whole complex of Soviet-American relations to stop right there in order to prevent positive repercussions in other spheres--trade, culture, other talks on curbing the arms race and so forth.

The struggle of passions over SALT-II is building up and assuming more and more visible forms. An absurd example of this is the recent meeting in Hot Springs attended by heads of 60 major American corporations--the "Business Council," a narrow group incorporating the captains of U.S. industry. Taking advantage of this meeting, the administration sent its representative, George Seignious, the new director of U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, to it. The SALT-II opponents did not sit twiddling their thumbs. They threw their trump card into the fray--director of the "Committee on the Present Danger," Paul Nitze. The duel between Seignious and Nitze was very fierce. Nitze urged the leaders of big business to oppose SALT-II, discrediting it inevery possible way. The views of the audience were divided some, like the head of the large Dupont chemical concern Shapiro and the head of the major Exxon oil concern Garvin supported SALT-II; others, like the head of General Electric, Jones, opposed it. And it's the same everywhere.

The future of SALT-II serves as a spring of hot debates in all strata of American statesmen and politicians on whose decisions depend the realization of their people's most cherished aspirations and demands. But it is also a responsibility to mankind as a whole.

SOLTAN NOTES U.S. CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION TO SALT-II

LD1616438 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] There is a mounting public interest in the United States in the forthcoming Soviet-American summit in Vienna. The announcement about the summit has intensified the polemics about the new Soviet-American agreement on limiting strategic arms. The debate involves high-ranking Washington officials, senators, members of the House of Representatives, trade union leaders, members of the business community and the public at large. Here is a report from our Washington correspondent Yuriy Soltan:

The American secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, has described the agreement as a major event in the life of the present generation. Speaking in an NBC television interview, he urged the Senate to ratify SALT-II without delay when it is signed.

The secretary of state stressed that the Senate's failure to ratify the agreement would intensify the arms race, worsen Soviet-American relations and have other undesirable consequences. It would also undermine international efforts on nuclear nonproliferation.

In an interview for the NEWSWEEK magazine, former Director of the Agency for Disarmament and Arms Control Paul Warnke said the Soviet-American agreement should not be regarded as a price for some concessions from the Soviet Union, which some members of Congress would like to obtain. He said the American side was doing the Russians no favors. It was acting in its own interest and in the interests of its own security.

The coalition for new foreign and military policies [as heard], an influential organization representing more than 30 unions and public organizations, has issued a statement stressing that the Soviet-American agreement on limiting strategic arms serves to reduce the threat of nuclear war and helps insure the security of the United States. The statement calls on the Senate to ratify SALT-II right after its signing at the Vienna summit. The organization also appealed to the Carter administration to resist pressure from some Senate members who try to secure an increase in U.S. military spendings in exchange for their votes.

Observers point out that this pressure on the administration continues to grow. One example of this are the television interviews by Senators Mann and Baker, who voiced serious reservations about SALT-II. The enemies of international relaxation are now trying to make the senators either vote against SALT-II or introduce amendments which would make the agreement practically worthless, and this is despite the fact that it has taken almost 7 years to work out the agreement and that all its clauses are carefully balanced and interrelated.

Polemics about SALT-II increase the polarization of two opposing groups in the United States which are for and against international relaxation. The outcome of these polemics will determine to a very large extent the United States' foreign policy for the next few years.

PEACE AND PROGRESS COMMENTS ON PRC'S OPPOSITION

LD161714 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Chinese propaganda has of late embarked on a clamorous hostile campaign against the proposed SALT-II treaty, which the Soviet Union and the United States have declared they reached agreement upon. The Chinese are pushing their attack in two directions: First they allege the treaty is bad because it cannot prevent the arms race; second, it is bad because the USSR is getting advantages at the United States' expense.

It seems that Beijing is concerned about the security of the United States much more than the American Government is. One would think that the United States administration has taken the Soviet bait. On orders from their Beijing masters the Chinese propagandists, who try to sell themselves to be great experts on the missile and nuclear potential of the USSR and the United States, heap on their readers and listeners hundreds of figures in a bid to convince them that the Soviet Union is ahead of the United States in the number of missiles, strategic bombers, submarines and so on.

The source of that propaganda information is well known--it is the military-industrial complex in the United States, which is the one who will suffer most from the proposed SALT-II treaty.

The Beijing experts deliberately ignore the statements by officials from the Carter administration who have repeatedly spoken of rough parity of forces between the USSR and the United States and of no danger following from the treaty to American security. Obviously, in opposing the SALT-II treaty as unsuitable for the United States, the Beijing leaders seek to prevent improvement in Soviet-American relations, which is the decisive factor of international detente. On the other hand, in alleging that the new treaty would not slow down the nuclear arms race and would only start a new round of that drive, Beijing tries to justify its own frenzied war preparations. By Beijing logic detente is the biggest danger today.

It will be remembered here that the Chinese working document at the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament last year said that world war can be put off through preparing for it organizationally and materially. This claim instigates [as heard] the position being held by the Beijing leaders on SALT-II. Beijing cannot back up anything positive and constructive against the treaty, its only arguments are the need for a stepped up arms race, more international tensions and war danger. But these are not what the nations want. The SALT-II treaty, the result of a reasonable compromise, gives mankind hope for what they need. That is, to feel confident of the future. It needs an end to the danger of nuclear war.

TASS REPORTS MEETING OF SALT DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA

LD161932 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 16, TASS--The heads of the delegations of the USSR and the USA at the Soviet-American talks on strategic arms limitation held a meeting here today.

FRG, UK SEE SALT PACT BENEFITING MBFR TALKS

LD170805 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 79 p 5 LD

[V. Mikhaylov report under general heading "Main Topic"]

[Text] Bonn--FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt's visit to Britain has just ended. On the eve of the meeting it became known that preparation of the strategic offensive arms limitation treaty between the USSR and the United States had been completed.

We favor speedy ratification (of the Soviet-U.S. treaty--V.M.), Chancellor Schmidt said after his talks in London. M. Thatcher, head of the British Government, supported this view. "Both politicians," the Bonn newspaper GENERAL ANZEIGER notes today, "expressed themselves in favor of continuing the policy of detente with respect to East Europe."

The Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty is regarded by FRG ruling circles not only as an important event on the path to limiting the arms race. This treaty, people here are noting, may give a decisive boost to the attainment of accords in Vienna at the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

SALT MAY PROVIDE IMPETUS TO MBFR IF WEST RESPONDS

LD162224 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1945 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet delegation to the talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe arrived in Vienna today. The 17th round of talks begins tomorrow. Our commentator Viktor Levin notes that the new meeting will take place in a favorable political climate. In Vienna, too, a meeting is intended for 15-18 June between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and James Carter to sign the new Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. The opinion has repeatedly been expressed before that the SALT-II agreement will give an impetus to the Vienna talks, too.

However, one has to no that the Western powers have so far not given a reply to the [word indistinct] proposals of the socialist countries which were submitted 1 year ago. For the 17th round to open up a way for real progress, it is essential for the Western participants, as well, to show good will.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1005 GMT on 16 May reports that: "The delegation is led by Ambassador Nikolay Tarasov."

SHISHLIN COMMENTS ON RESULTS OF WARSAW PACT MEETING

LD162242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] The communique of the meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of Warsaw Pact member states was published today. For comment on this recent development, here is international affairs journalist Nikolay Shishlin.

The meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of Warsaw Pact member countries, which took place in Budapest, was a direct continuation of the work of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee, which took place last November in Moscow. It is natural that the range of ideas on which the foreign ministers were working at the Budapest meeting was a development of the initiatives and proposals put forward at the Moscow conference of the Political Consultative Committee.

A very important point in the work of the Committee of Foreign Ministers was the proposal that an all-European conference be held on military detente in Europe. This provides an organizational form within the framework of which the European states participating in the all-European conference and the United States and Canada could even in the course of 1979 get down to work to draw up measures of trust and to expand measures of trust on the European Continent and to provide a good start to military detente, which is vitally necessary not only for Europe but as a whole for the entire world.

It is characteristic, too, that the work of the Budapest meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers was marked by its broad international approach. The foreign ministers of the socialist states did not confine themselves to the framework of European problems. This was reflected in the fact that the ministers clearly and definitively spoke in favor of the conclusion and the putting into force of the new Soviet-American treaty on limiting strategic offensive armaments and the going on to the following stage of talks on their reduction. The foreign ministers also clearly expressed their opinion regarding the measures which should be taken to curtail the nuclear arms race, to eliminate nuclear arms, to halt tests of these arms and to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. So, although the occasion was the meeting of an organizational institution which is devoted to European problems, the decisions adopted in Budapest are undoubtedly of a broader international significance. They weightily and authoritatively speak of the fact that the countries of the socialist community are firmly continuing to proceed along the path of detente and of affirming the norms of peaceful cooperation inside and outside Europe.

Shalygin Commentary

LD162038 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Yuriy Shalygin commentary]

[Excerpts] Budapest was the site of a meeting between the foreign ministers of the Warsaw Treaty countries, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. Yuriy Shalygin writes the following comment:

The meeting and the ensuing communique focused on steps relating to relaxation of tension. The socialist countries' approach to this problem is very serious. They not only declare it is imperative that the arms race be stopped but advance detailed practical proposals. And this is typical of the entire history of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, which marked its 24th anniversary recently.

The meeting of the Warsaw Treaty countries coincided with a series of conferences within the framework of NATO and showed the vast difference in their strivings. The Budapest meeting proposed a number of steps aimed at relaxation of tension, while the conferences in Evere are discussing a buildup of military preparations. The question arises, who is creating a threat to peace? And this question is natural because the Western media are talking profusely on the alleged dangerous intentions of the Warsaw Treaty Organization. However, the socialist community's position is quite clear. It was expressed at the Budapest meeting which pointed out that the strengthening of world security should be sought by limiting nuclear and other weapons on the basis of full reciprocity, instead of accelerating the arms race.

RADIO CRITICIZES PRC IN WARSAW PACT ANNIVERSARY COMMENT

OW160456 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 14 May 79 OW

[Station observer Lavrov's talk to commanders and fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army on the 24th anniversary of the signing of the Warsaw Pact, entitled: "The Warsaw Pact Is a Treaty To Defend the Peace and Security of the People of Various Countries"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners. May 14 marks the 24th anniversary of the signing of the Warsaw Pact by the leaders of the socialist countries in Europe. Station observer Lavrov points out that the signing of this treaty was intended by the socialist countries to meet the threat to their security from the imperialist aggressive countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The NATO bellicose chieftains have launched more than 40 local wars and armed conflicts against various countries including the DPRK, Vietnam and Cuba during the past 30 years. The NATO militarists have also attempted to overthrow the people's governments of a number of socialist countries in Europe by means of stirring up internal counter-revolutionary activities. The situation in Czechoslovakia in 1968 is one of the conspicuous examples.

The Soviet Union, Poland, the GDR, Hungary and Bulgaria dispatched troops to help the working class and all working people in Czechoslovakia. They helped the Czechoslovak people defend the achievements of socialism. The party, state and military leaders of Czechoslovakia considered this common action of the socialist countries a noble and genuine internationalist action.

However, the Chinese leaders, who had already divorced themselves from the proper class stand and taken the road of opposing socialism and the Soviet Union, called the assistance given to Czechoslovakia by the fraternal community of socialist states a sort of aggression.

The NATO imperialist chieftains have rejected peace-loving proposals made by the fraternal community of socialist states. In the meantime, they are stepping up arms competition in an unprecedented manner and embarking on their 15-year war preparation program. The real intention of these people is to sabotage detente and pave the way for launching new wars. Those who follow the same road and join the same camp include the leaders in Beijing. The NATO chieftains' policy of aggravating tension in the world is in accord with the intention of the Beijing leaders.

Deng Xiaoping has echoed the words of the bellicose people in the Pentagon. He pointed out that mankind could not but sit on the edge of a new world tragedy [as heard] and that the only way out was to prepare for war, dig tunnels deep and store more grain. We can see that today many factors link the leaders at Zhongnanhai with the militarists of the NATO countries.

The Beijing leaders are making contacts and collaborating with the most extreme and most reactionary militarists of imperalism. This rebellious policy is completely in accord with the imperialists' desire to have China assume its role, that is as the 16th NATO country.

CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD151542 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] The 90th session of the CEMA Fxecutive Committee opened in Moscow today. It involves deputy heads of government of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, as well as Yugoslavia. Current problems of comprehensive economic cooperation between the CEMA countries are under discussion.

MOSCOW CITES SFRY'S GLIGORIJEVIC ON COOPERATION WITH CEMA

LD162324 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1730 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] The CEMA Executive Committee meeting is being held in Moscow. It is attended by the deputy premiers of the countries which are members of this organization, as well as by the representative of Yugoslavia, Slobodan Gligorijevic, member of the SFRY Federal Executive Council. The meeting is considering questions of [words indistinct] economic cooperation between countries which are members of CEMA. Although Yugoslavia is not a member of the council, it actively participates--as is known--in many of its organs. At yesterday's session of the Federal Assembly, constant development of economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and CEMA countries was emphasized among other things. Some 42 percent of the Yugoslav exports go to these countries. Talking with the TASS correspondent, Slobodan Gligorijevic said that cooperation with CEMA includes questions of expanding specialization and cooperation in production, concluding multilateral agreements on production and scientific-technical cooperation exchange of positive experience, using free capacities and exchanging information of methodological and research natures. The most fruitful and broad cooperation is being carried out in the sphere of machine building, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, chemical industry, radio-technical and electronic industry. We also cooperate with the International Investment Bank and the International Bank for Economic Cooperation, Slobodan Gligorijevic said. Over 50 agreements of a multilateral nature have been concluded between the Yugoslav organizations and corresponding organizations of the CEMA countries.

Our mutually beneficial cooperation is producing good results, Slobodan Gligorijevic said. It has been successfully developing for over 15 years. In the last 5 years, the volume of trade with CEMA countries has more than doubled. Economic relations, which are dynamically developing, will also have an important place in the future. It is possible to expect further development and increased volume of this cooperation in various fields. Slobodan Gligorijevic emphasized in conclusion.

TASHKENT HOSTS CEMA MEETING ON SOLAR ENERGY

LD151015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Problems of solar energy conversion are being discussed at the meeting of the CEMA member-countries' experts which has opened in Tashkent. Specialists are correlating working plans for research in this important branch of the economy and are familiarizing themselves with Uzbekistan scientists' achievements.

GROMYKO DISCUSSES UN'S WORLD ROLE WITH WALDHEIM

LD161208 Moscow TASS in English 1154 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, had a conversation with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim today.

They had an exchange of opinions on questions of activities of the United Nations Organization, as well as on a number of key problems of the present-day international situation.

It was emphasized that the U.N. role in the efforts to prevent the threat of war, to strengthen international security and deepen detente grows still more in the present-day situation in the world. Special attention was devoted to matters aimed at stopping the arms race and to what contribution the UNO can make to the solution of the matters.

In this connection Andrey Gromyko pointed to the importance of the socialist states' new proposals in the field of restraining the arms race, in the field of disarmament, international detente and peace in Europe and throughout the world, proposals which found their reflection in the communique of the meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, which was held in Budapest on May 14-15.

The development of international events also sets tasks to the UNO in combining the efforts of states to counteract the acts of aggression, to remove seats of international tension, and eliminate the last colonial and racist regimes.

The contribution by the UNO to the solution of these tasks, Andrey Gromyko pointed out, will be more considerable and tangible if all the U.N. member-states strictly observe the provisions of its Charter. The Soviet Union as a founding member of the UNO, for its part, does and will do everything depending on it for the organization to serve as an effective instrument of maintaining universal peace.

Andrey Gromyko gave a luncheon in honour of Kurt Waldheim. At the luncheon, they exchanged friendly toasts.

Waldheim Departure

LD161644 Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Today United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim left Moscow. He was seen off at the airport by First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Georgiy Korniyenko.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES LEBANESE SITUATION

LD161550 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] New York, May 16, TASS-The U.N. Security Council met at Lebanon's request to consider the situation in the country's south.

Tel Aviv and the rightwing Christain military formations supported by it are sabotaging the implementation of the mandate of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon and are using the "state" proclaimed by the separatists for delivering strikes at national-liberation forces and the Palestinian resistance movement.

The U.N. force which was created with a view to helping the legitimate Government of Lebanon in establishing its control over the country's southern part, were repeatedly subjected to artillery shelling and tank raids lately.

Israel also continues armed actions against Palestinian refugee camps and Lebanese villages. As a result of aerial bombardment dozens of civilians lost their lives. The Palestine Liberation Organization viewed those attacks as another evidence that the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty signed in Washington recently was a step towards elimination of the Arab people of Palestine. Towards the unleashing of a still wider military conflicts by Israel, and not a step towards an all-embracing peace in the Middle East. At the meeting Vasco Futscher Pereira (Portugal), president of the U.N. Security Council, informed the Council members of the situation in Lebanon. In his speech he voiced concern over the gravity of the obtaining situation. V. Futscher Pereira said that steps were taken under the auspices of the U.N. Security Council in recent days with a view to achieving an improvement of the situation.

The U.N. Security Council will attentively follow the development of events and if necessary will meet again to discuss the matter. The president of the Security Council will continue to make appropriate diplomatic efforts.

SOCIALIST GROUP AT UNCTAD ISSUES STATEMENT ON PROTECTIONISM

LD161836 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Manila, May 16, TASS--The socialist states express grave concern in connection with growing protectionism in the foreign trade policy of the capitalist powers and regard it as a unilateral and unfounded toughening of discrimination in trade among states with different socio-economic systems. This is pointed out in the joint statement circulated here by the group of delegations of the socialist countries--participants of the 5th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which is continuing its work in the capital of the Philippines.

While doing lip service to the slogan of "free trade", the document notes, the Western powers are in reality resorting ever more broadly to protectionist barriers against the export of goods, particularly manufactured products, from the developing and socialist countries. This policy puts a brake on the industrialisation of developing nations, creates serious obstacles to their economic development and leads to the perpetuation of the young states' dependent status in the capitalist system of the international division of labour, interferes with their exercise of complete sovereignty over their economic and natural resources.

Introducing protectionism and discrimination increasingly in international trade, the statement says, the capitalist powers are retarding substantially the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis, establishment of a new international economic order which would ensure a speedy liquidation of the economic backwardness of the developing states, dynamic progress of all the peoples, of all mankind. Such a policy contradicts the generally accepted norms of international trade, constitutes a departure from the principles and programs of expanding international economic cooperation which had been agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Consistent struggle for ensuring a lasting peace and international security, for consolidating detente, checking the arms race and reducing military spendings, the statement says, are of paramount importance for the expansion of equitable international trade in the interests of all countries.

SULLIVAN CLAIM OF SOVIET MENACE 'OUTRIGHT PROVOCATION'

LD161736 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Washington, May 16, TASS--The United States has suspended the withdrawal of its ground forces from South Korea and does not intend to reduce its military presence in the western part of the Pacific Ocean. This was stated by Roger Sullivan, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, who addressed one of the House subcommittees of the U.S. Congress. It is common knowledge that the U.S. Government had previously announced its plans to withdraw the U.S. ground forces from South Korea. At present, however, the Pentagon has not only postponed their withdrawal under different pretexts, but is preparing to increase the numerical strength of the airforce, reconnaissance and logistics units. Roger Sullivan expressed the hope that the forthcoming visit of President Carter to Seoul would mark the beginning of a new period of "better mutual understanding and trust" in American-South Korean relations.

In his speech the State Department official resorted to hackneyed inventions about the "Soviet military menace" in Southeast Asia. He claimed that this "alarmed" seriously the United States, Japan and China.

This statement smacks of an outright provocation, because it is generally known that it is the United States that had created an extensive network of naval and airforce bases in East and Southeast Asia, which endanger peace and stability in those regions.

Thus, more than 40,000 officers and men are posted in South Korea. The entire territory of Japan is dotted with U.S. bases. Suffice it to mention the biggest of them, such as the naval bases at Yokosuka and Sasebo, the airforce bases at Misawa, Yokota, Iwakuni, and also on Okinawa. In the Philippines the United States has the Subic Bay Naval Base and the Clark Field Airforce Base. The United States enjoys the right of using naval and airforce bases in the territories of Australia and New Zealand. U.S. warships frequently call at the ports of Taiwan and some other countries of Southeast Asia.

According to figures of the U.S. Congress, there are about 124,000 U.S. servicemen in the region of eastern Asia and the western part of the Pacific Ocean, as well as considerable airforce and naval forces, including nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarines. This is why Sullivan's pronouncements about the mythical "Soviet military menace" in that region of the world are, to put it mildly, wrongly addressed.

U.S. SENATE APPROVES RHODESIAN 'ELECTION' RESULT

LD161340 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 16 May 79 LD

["Supporting Rhodesian Racists"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, May 16, TASS--The U.S. ruling circles are using the "elections," which were staged in April by the racist regime of Rhodesia, as a pretext for recognition of the illegal regime of Salisbury. The U.S. Senate by 75 votes to 19 adopted a resolution which proclaims the electoral farce in Rhodesia as a free expression of the people's will and is urging the U.S. Government to lift the embargo on trade with the racist regime at an earliest date. The embargo had been imposed at the call of the United Nations Organization several years ago. The resolution is calling on President Carter to recognize by June 30, this year, that the "elections" in Rhodesia, elections which were imposed on the people of Zimbabwe by the racist authorities of Salisbury, were just and free, and accordingly adopt a decision on resumption of trade and economic relations with the Rhodesian authorities.

Certain circles in the Senate, which from the very outset have been coming out in support of the racists of Rhodesia, are not concealing their satisfaction with the voting in the Senate. Senator Jesse Helms, a longtime opponent of the U.N. sanctions against the racists, said he admired the Senate decision.

As is known the racists needed the "elections" farce in order to legalize the racist regime of Salisbury by setting up there a puppet government consisting of local compromisers. Despite the fact that the "elections" were held in defiance of the U.N. resolutions, President Carter described them as a step in the right direction, and a number of American organizations sent their "observers" there.

Some U.S. legislators have to state the falsified character of the Rhodesian "elections". Senator Paul Tsongas said the "elections" were a fraudulent trick which was accompanied with the forcible driving of residents to the ballot boxes. He called on the administration not to lift the U.N. sanctions against the Rhodesian regime.

COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S., SOVIET FISHERMEN ADVANTAGEOUS

LD151410 Moscow TASS in English 1309 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Seattle, May 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshov reports:

Expansion of business relations between the USSR and the United States yields mutual advantage to the two countries. This is borne out by successful cooperation in fishing, effected on the initiative of the mixed Soviet-American "Marine Resources" company set up for the first time in the history of the two countries.

Life itself suggested the idea of the joint work of Soviet and American fishermen, your correspondent was told by Walter Pereira, vice president and general manager of the company. Quite a large amount of fish is caught in the Pacific Ocean requiring immediate processing. Such fish includes the silver hake, for instance. The American fishermen are experienced men but they are not provided with the necessary technical facilities, including processing complexes. The Soviet Union has modern excellently fitted out vessels. As shown by practical experience, we can fish jointly and profitably, can process the fish on Soviet ships and deliver it to the international market.

Walter Pereira noted that the working people understood each other very well even though they spoke different languages. They realise, first and foremost, that the success of their joint efforts depends largely on good and peaceful relations between the two countries, which pave the way to economic cooperation.

This is why the American fishermen come out for the all-round strengthening of Soviet-American relations, welcome the new SALT agreement, he stressed. Such an agreement is equally needed by the Americans and the Soviet people, because it is the most important step in the practical implementation of the policy of detente meeting the best interests of our peoples.

KREPS TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER OHIRA IN TOKYO

LD161522 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 16, TASS--Japan's Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira today received U.S. Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps who is staying in Tokyo en route from China to the United States. They had a conversation on questions of bilateral commercial and economic relations, characterised by acute contradictions. The U.S. deficit in trade with Japan reached 11.6 billion dollars last year.

JAPAN COMMUNISTS HAVE 'FRIENDLY' TALK WITH SUSLOV, DEPART

LD161527 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 79 p 2 LD

[Text] TASS--On 14 May, M.A. Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee received T. Nishizawa, deputy chairman of the Japanese Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee Presidium, H. Tachiki, member of the JCP Central Committee Presidium, and H. Sakamoto, deputy chief of the JCP Central Committee International Department, who are in Moscow. There was a conversation concerning matters of interest to both parties which took place in a friendly atmosphere. R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, participated in the conversation. The same day T. Nishizawa, H. Tachiki and H. Sakamoto left for home. At the airport the Japanese comrades were seen off by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, and CPSU Central Committee executives.

JAPANESE DISSATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF BRIBERY INQUIRY

LD162012 Moscow TASS in English 1953 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 16, TASS--The Japanese public is deeply dissatisfied with the results of the investigation that ended yesterday of the paying of bribes to top Japanese officials by American aviation concerns. In the course of the investigation, conducted for four months by the Tokyo procurator's office, it was established that the concern McDonnell Douglas and Boeing had brought into Japan 3.5 million dollars to bribe high-placed government officials. It became known to the investigators that this money was handed through the management of the Japanese trade company Nishon-Iwai to the former Prime Ministers Kishi and Fukuda, to the former Director of the National Defence Agency Matsuno and other persons. The prosecutor's office, however, did not prefer charges against any of these politicians under the pretext of "insufficiency of evidence" and "expiration of the statute of limitations." In the long run it was intended to take to court only the former Vice President of Nishon-Iwai Kaifu and three other officials of that company. The scandal about the acceptance of bribes by Japanese politicians, the local press notes, was converted by the efforts of the investigative authorities into a case of only unlawful actions by staff members of Nishon-Iwai. The papers stress that "the results of the investigation deceived the people's expectations and only cause bitterness and dissatisfaction." The attempts by Liberal Democrats to hush up the scandal and whitewash the bribe takers caused a sharp dissatisfaction of the opposition parties, which announced a boycott of meetings of both chambers of the Japanese parliament. As a result, parliament is paralyzed for already five days. The Japanese democratic public persistently demands of the ruling circles a continuation of the investigation, the naming of all politicians who accepted bribes and putting them on trial.

AFGHAN LEADERS THANK BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN FOR GREETINGS

LD161746 Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--A message from General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Hafizollah Amin to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Aleksey Kosygin has been received here. The message expresses cordial gratitude for the congratulations on the occasion of the republic--the first anniversary of the April revolution.

The leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan expressed confidence that the relations of friendship and goodneighbourliness between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, which were established after the April revolution, will still further strengthen the comradeship and solidarity between the two countries.

"The treaty of friendship, goodneighbourliness and cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union has laid the foundation of interstate relations, which meet the interests of both countries and which are of exclusively great significance for the cause of consolidation of peace and security in Asia and the whole world", the message stresses.

INDIAN BOOK REVIEWS FAVORABLE TIES WITH USSR

LD161138 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 15, TASS--"Indian-Soviet Relations--Favourable Prospects." This is the title of a book that now appeared on book counters in the Indian capital. Its author is prominent political figure, member of Parliament, member of the National Council of the Communist Party of India Jagjit Singh Anand. He points out that cooperation with the Soviet Union plays an important role in the development of Indian economy. The symbol of this cooperation is the Bhilai metallurgical complex, which was built when the West was flatly refusing to assist industrialization of newly-liberated states. The USSR granted to India credits and promoted the development of its metallurgical industry, energetics, mining industry, production of mineral fertilizers.

Of special significance to the strenghening of relations between the two countries was the signing in 1971 of the Indian-Soviet treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation, the visit to India in 1973 by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, Jagjit Singh Anand notes. As a result of this, Indian-Soviet ties widened further. The volume of mutual trade reached ten billion rupees.

New prospects for the development of relations between the two countries open now, the author writes. The sides are perfecting the forms of cooperation, such as, for instance, cooperation in industry. Soviet and Indian experts note the possibilities of joint construction of industrial enterprises in third countries. Cooperation between the USSR and India is growing also on the political arena. An earnest of its success is the community of closeness of views on the most important problems of our time.

CHINESE CAUSING PROBLEMS OVER PROPOSALS AT SRV-PRC TALKS

LD162338 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2015 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] The Vietnamese-Chinese talks in Hanoi on the normalization of relations between the two countries are continuing. Our correspondent Leonid Krichevskiy reports:

[Krichevskiy--begin recording] Four sessions have been held during which two essentially opposite approaches of the sides clearly emerged to the problem of normalizing relations.

At the first session, the Vietnamese delegation (?prepared) a three-point program including concrete, constructive proposals directed toward a real normalization of relations between the two countries. The proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam envisage a swift solution of the questions connected with eliminating the tense situation on the border after Beijing's aggression, as well as the establishment of normal relations between the two countries. It should be stressed that the Vietnamese proposals envisage the normalization of bilateral relations between Vietnam and China. But the proposals of the Chinese delegation indicate a clear desire to impose Beijing's will on Vietnam--to make it dependent on the hegemonistic and expansionist schemes of Beijing [words indistinct] the problem of normalizing the situation in the border area between the two countries, the Chinese proposals are calculated at a direct, crude interference by Beijing against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. Nonetheless, demonstrating good will, the Vietnamese side is showing concern that the talks should not reach a deadlock, and is making new concrete proposals.

Thus, at the third session, the Vietnamese delegation proposed a discussion of the first point of the Vietnamese proposals and at the next session the first point of the Chinese proposals. The Chinese side rejected this. Then the Vietnamese delegation proposed discussing first the first point of the Chinese proposals and at the next session the first point of the Vietnamese proposals. This initiative by the Vietnamese delegation was also not supported.

The Chinese delegation's strategy at the talks is that of dictating, and imposing its will. This position is accompanied by continuous open threats against Vietnam from the leaders in Beijing, a further concentration of Chinese troops on the Vietnamese-Chinese border, ceaseless armed provocations and finally violations of air and sea space of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which are increasing in scale. [end recording]

VNA DENIES 'SECRET WEAPONS' SUPPLIED BY USSR

LD170950 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 17 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 17, TASS--The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY transmitted the following report:

The French AFP news agency, quoting the American NEWSWEEK magazine, reported on May 14 that China suspected that the Soviet Union allegedly had supplied a secret weapon to the Vietnamese Armed Forces, which they should have tested during the recent Chinese-Vietnamese conflict.

The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY has been authorized to state that this report is absolutely untrue and deprived of any foundation.

SRV COMMISSION RELEASES COMMUNIQUE ON PRC WAR CRIMES

LD161539 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 16, TASS--The war unleashed by China against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was extremely cruel and inhuman, it is stressed here in a communique issued by a commission of inquiry into crimes committed by the Chinese expansionists in the course of the aggressive war.

The Chinese aggressors, the document said, destroyed the population on a mass scale. Their main victims were women and children. The invaders killed doctors and other medical personnel that attended to wounded.

The occupationists surpassed in their crimes the German Nazis, demonstrating blood-curdling imagination in methods of killing people. The terrible crimes perpetrated by Beijing's Pol Pot hirelings in Kampuchea were actually repeated in Vietnam. One is horrified by the account of witnesses of the tragedy of the Vietnamese village of Tongtyup (Cao Bang Province) on March 9. That is four days after the statement by the Chinese leaders about with withdrawal of their troops from Vietnam. On that day Chinese soldiers killed 43 persons in that village. Among the victims were 24 women, including seven pregnant women, and 19 babies. The butchers killed their victims with sticks, knives for the cutting of sugar cane, quartered them, ripped up their stomachs and beheaded them. And this was not an isolated happening.

The communique also contains preliminary estimates of the damage inflicted by the interventionists. They totally destroyed four towns and devastated 320 communities that were in the zone of temporary occupation. 350 thousand people were left homeless. 735 schools were damaged and all kindergartens. Of 430 hospitals only two survived. All structures and property of 79 forest economies, cooperatives and livestock farms were destroyed and 400,000 heads of cattle were destroyed or taken into China.

The Beijing expansionists and hegemonists, the communique says, on unleasing the pre-planned aggressive war, on violating the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, rudely violated international laws, in particular the 1949 Geneva Convention on the protection of the civilian population during war.

According to international laws applied in their time to the Hitlerites and Japanese militarists, the Chinese aggressors should bear full responsibility for all the damage caused by that war and compensate it.

Being threatened by a repetition by China of the criminal aggression on an even larger scale, the Vietnamese people call on the peoples and governments of all countries, international democratic organizations, all friends to give active support to Vietnam in the name of freedom, justice and peace and to resolutely condemn the Chinese expansionists.

The Vietnamese people, the communique says, is fully resolved to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of its country.

PRAVDA'S TEXT OF HENG SAMRIN'S CABLE TO BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN

LD161605 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;

Comrade A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Personally and on behalf of the Central Committee of Kampuchea's National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS], the People's Revolutionary Council and the Kampuchean people I express sincere gratitude to the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers, the fraternal Soviet people and to yourselves personally for your warm congratulations and cordial wishes on the national holiday of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. As in the past--in the struggle for national liberation--so now, in the struggle for defense of the motherland and in building the country, the Kampuchean people have always enjoyed the support of and great valuable assistance from the fraternal Soviet people. I take this opportunity to express the profound and sincere gratitude of the Kampuchean people, the KNUFNS and Kampuchea's People's Revolutionary Council to the Soviet people, the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers for their great and valuable support and assistance. Firmly pursuing the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and nonalinement formulated by the KNUFNS and by Kampuchea's People's Revolutionary Council, the People's Republic of Kampuchea is fully resolved to strengthen solidarity, friendship and multifaceted cooperation with the USSR in the interests of both countries and in the interests of peace, national independence, democracy and socialism throughout the world. We wish the fraternal Soviet people under the CPSU's wise leadership the attainment of still greater successes in building the material and technical base of communism in the Soviet Union and in the struggle for peace throughout the world.

I wish you, comrades, good health and great successes in your high, noble activities. With fraternal greetings.

[Signed] Heng Samrin, president of the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and chairman of the KNUFNS Central Committee.

KAMPUCHEAN TU DELEGATION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT TO USSR

LD161236 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--The victory of the revolutionary patriotic forces over the bloody pro-Beijing regime of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary has created real opportunities for Kampuchea's advance along the road of democracy and social progress. This is said in a joint communique on the stay in the USSR from April 26 to May 1[illegible] of a delegation of the Federation of Trade Unions for Kampuchea's National Salvation. Th[illegible] delegation was staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Central Council of So[illegible]et Trade Unions. The delegation's leader is chairman of the federation, member of the Central Committee of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea Meas Somnang. Members of the delegation had meetings and conversations with chairman of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions Aleksey Shibayev. Members of the Kampuchean delegation emphasized the decisive role of the fraternal assistance and support of the working people of socialist countries, above all of the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in the victory of the revolutionary-patriotic forces of Kampuchea. The communique stresses that the trade unions of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Soviet Union condemn resolutely the aggression and continued provocation of China against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, subversive actions against the Laos People's Democratic Republic. Representatives of the fraternal trade unions of the two countries, the communique says, unanimously declared for close bilateral and international cooperation in the interests of peace, democracy and social progress, in the interests of unity of international trade union movement.

YUGOSLAVIA'S TITO ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR VISIT, REST

Belgrade Departure

LD161524 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1359 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--Josip Broz Tito, president of the SFRY and president of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, left for the Soviet Union today for a friendly visit and a short period of rest at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

He is accompanied on his trip by S. Dolanc, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; J. Vrhovec, SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs; M. Veres, assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs; B. Milosevic, deputy executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium [title as received] and B. Badurina, chief of the presidential cabinet.

J. Broz Tito was seen off at Batajnica Airport by L. Kolisevski, vice president of the SFRY Presidency and member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; B. Mikulic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; D. Markovic, president of the SFRY Assembly; and V. Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY. The USSR's temporary charge d'affairs in the SFRY, M. Vinogradov, was also present.

Moscow Arrival

LD161528 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--The president of Yugoslavia, President of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Josip Broz Tito arrived in Moscow today.

At the airport he was welcomed by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and other officials.

Josip Broz Tito came to the Soviet capital on a friendly visit and for a brief vacation on the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Brezhnev, Tito Talks

LD171144 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 17 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 17, TASS--Talks were opened in the Kremlin today between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and chairman of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, with participation of Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Stane Dolanc, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Leonid Brezhnev and Josip Broz Tito exchanged information on the development of the USSR and the SFRY, characterised the results achieved in the fulfilment of the decisions of the 25th Congress of the CPSU and the 11th Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

The sides set out their viewpoints on key international problems, assessed the course of the relaxation of international tensions, the obstacles on its way, and also went on record about steps that must be taken to deepen detente, to make it universal.

Leonid Brezhnev and Josip Broz Tito paid special attention to the state and prospects of the development of many-faceted Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation. The talks were passing in a friendly, open atmosphere. The talks will be continued.

Importance of Summits

LD162318 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1730 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] As we already reported, Josip Broz Tito, president of the SFRY and the LCY, arrived today on a friendly visit to Moscow. This visit continues the practice of regular Soviet-Yugoslav summit meetings which are important not only for mutual relations between the two countries but also in a wider sense.

Great sympathies are shown in the Soviet Union for the Yugoslav people. There is interest in deepening the friendship which has traditionally existed. In its relations with Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union proceeds from the principled policy of mutual relations with the socialist countries, formulated at the CPSU congresses. We firmly abide by the tested rule--it was noted at the 25th party congress--to conduct affairs in the spirit of true equality and interest in mutual successes, to make decisions which take into account not only national but international interests.

The range of the Soviet-Yugoslav relations is varied and broad. It includes constant contacts in the fields of party, state and society and in the spheres of economy and culture. There is every reason to speak of a stable and planned character of cooperation. Let us take, for example, the sphere of material production. Over 100 projects in the field of energy, ferrous and nonferrous industry, coal industry, oil and other industrial branches, which are important for Yugoslav economy, are being built or reconstructed with Soviet help. The trade between the two countries is dynamically expanding.

The conviction is expressed in the Soviet Union that the present visit by Josip Broz Tito will lead to further consolidation of the all-round cooperation between the two countries. The report of the SFRY Presidency, published in Belgrade, emphasizes that these summit meetings considerably contribute to the development and improvement of the Yugoslav-Soviet relations and all-round cooperation.

USSR-SFRY COOPERATION IN ENERGY REPORTED

LD170635 Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--An automatic system regulating the temperature in a combustion chamber for a unit with a magneto-hydro-dynamic generator was designed by Yugoslav specialists. The creation of this joint will be started shortly and then the system will be delivered to the USSR to be tested at the Soviet unit U-25 with the magneto-hydro-dynamic generator.

This unit, the biggest one in the world, is functioning at the Moscow Institute of High Temperatures. It models the basic elements of a large capacity MHD-power station. The institute is participating in a number of important programmes of international scientific and technical cooperation with many countries in the sphere of MHD-transformation of energy.

Countries of the socialist community pooled their efforts in the CMEA framework solving a complex of scientific research and designing for creation of MHD-power stations using gaseous, liquid and solid fuel. An official agreement on Yugoslavia's joining this programme was signed in February.

The forms of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in the sphere of MHD-transformation of energy are now becoming more specific.

A number of joint projects on problems of automation of power stations with MHD-power stations is planned. These power stations have a higher efficiency as compared with existing ones.

POLISH OFFICIAL LAUDS WORK OF FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES

LD161436 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1600 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] A meeting of activists and leaders of the Polish-Soviet and Soviet-Polish friendship societies has ended in Svetlogorsk, Kaliningradskaya Oblast. Jan Szydlak, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland who headed the Polish delegation of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society in Svetlogorsk, told our correspondent:

[Szydlak--begin recording] The Polish and Soviet friendship societies (?met) for the first time here in a joint seminar. We represent the forces in Poland and in the Soviet Union which, fulfilling the will of our parties--the PZPR and the CPSU--disseminate in all spheres of our social, economic, political and cultural life the ideas of friendship and brotherhood between our two nations. We are making great efforts to bring our societies closer together and to acquaint Polish communities with Soviet achievements in all spheres of contemporary life. We organize cooperation between factory collectives, work enterprises and institutional, scientific, scholastic and rural collectives in order to exchange experiences of communist construction in the Soviet Union and socialist construction in Poland. We organize mass exchanges between people in order to acquaint them with concrete Soviet achievements. Our joint task is to popularize the ideals of internationalism in our community and strengthen the socialist community, the basis of which is the unity of action, cooperation and brotherhood between the Polish nation and the nations of the Soviet Union.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I would like to sincerely thank all the Soviet comrades active in the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society for their fraternal efforts to popularize the friendship between our nations. The friendship between the Polish and Soviet nations is an unshakeable foundation of socialist Poland's development, its further social and economic development, and the strengthening of its power in all spheres of our life. Thank you very much. [end recording]

USSR TO SUPPLY METALLURGICAL RAW MATERIALS TO ROMANIA

LD112223 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1600 GMT 10 May 79 LD

[Text] According to the agreement between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania, ships of the Ukrainian river fleet will insure during the current shipping season the transport of some 200,000 tons of metallurgical raw materials to the port of Galatto. The Soviet ships [name indistinct] Krivoy Rog and Maydanets have already transported to Romania 5,000 tons of enriched ferrous ore from the Dnepropetrovsk mining complex.

USSR MILITARY LEADERS RECEIVE BULGARIAN MEDALS

LD160933 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 79 p 1 LD

[Correspondent report: "Award of Bulgarian Medal]

[Text] The presentation of a Bulgarian Jubilee Medal commemorating the "centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke, 1878-1978," awarded by a Bulgarian State Council decree to prominent Soviet military commanders for their great contribution in strengthening Soviet-Bulgarian frienship and the indestructible fraternity-in-arms between the Soviet Armed Forces and the Bulgarian People's Army, took place in a festive ceremony 4 May in the Bulgarian Embassy in the USSR.

D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, presented the Bulgarian medal to: Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff of the armed forces and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander-in-chief, Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; USSR deputy defense ministers: Army General V.F. Tolubko, Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorchkov, Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, Army General A.T. Altunin, Col Gen Engr N.N. Alekseyev and Col Gen Engr V.M. Shabanov; Army General I.N. Shkadov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Main Personnel Directorate; Marshal of the Soviet Union P.F. Batitskiy; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.I. Chuykov; marshals of categories of troops, generals and admirals.

The ambassador sincerely congratulated the recipients of the award and stressed that Bulgarian-Soviet friendship today is our common property and pride and the indestructible basis of the relations and cooperation between the peoples of our fraternal countries and their armed defenders.

Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov spoke on behalf of the award recipients. He warmly thanked the BCP Central Committee, the Bulgarian State Council and Comrade Todor Zhivkov personally for the high award.

More Awards

LD160935 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 May 79 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Bulgarian Medal for Soviet Commanders"]

[Text] On 10 May D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, presented the Bulgarian Jubilee Memorial Medal "centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke, 1878 1978" to a group of prominent Soviet military commanders. They are decorated in accordance with a Bulgarian State Council decree for their great contribution to strengthening Soviet-Bulgarian friendship and inviolable fraternity-in-arms between the Soviet Armed Forces and the Bulgarian People's Army.

The recipients included USSR deputy defenseministers: Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.S. Moskalenko and Col Gen Eng N.F. Shestopalov and also Marshal of the Soviet Union I.Kh. Bagramyan, marshals of categories of troops, generals and admirals.

Ambassador D. Zhulev cordially congratulated the award recipients.

On behalf of the recipients Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov warmly thanked the BCP Central Committee and the Bulgarian State Council for the high award.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS PARIS AFTER PCF CONGRESS

LD170214 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1402 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris--A CPSU delegation headed by Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left here for home today. The CPSU delegation had been taking part in the 23d Congress of the French Communist Party at the invitation of the PCF Central Committee. The CPSU delegation was seen off at the airport by G. Plissonnier, PCF Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, and PCF Central Committee members L. Baillot and (R. Jannes). The farewell party included the USSR's ambassador in France, S.V. Chervonenko.

PRESS REPORTS ON PCF CONGRESS, PONOMAREV BOBIGNY SPEECH

Marchais Report

LD161239 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent and TASS report: "23d French Communist Party Congress; Comrade G. Marchais' Report"]

[Text] Paris, 10 May--Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party [PCF], has delivered the PCF Central Committee report at the 23d PCF Congress, taking place in the Paris suburb of Saint-Ouen.

In making the decision 3 years ago at the 22d party congress to lead the country along the path of democratic transformations increasingly oriented toward the struggle for socialism, the speaker said, the French communists proceeded from a thorough analysis of the realities of our country, its situation, and the underlying phenomena engendered by the crisis which has struck France. Today the crisis means persistent mass unemployment for 1.8 million workers, men and women deprived of the first of their rights--the right to work. The crisis means new machinery sent for scrap and plants closed down. It means cities and whole regions struck by economic disaster and the closure of entire sectors of the country's industry.

The crisis means the reduction of purchasing power for increasingly numerous categories of workers, poverty affecting millions of families, and the aggravation of social inequality. It means a production level marking time and formerly fertile lands abandoned.

Analyzing the reasons for the crisis, the French communists stress that it is developing above all on a national scale and has been caused by the aggravation of the French capitalist society's contradictions. No references to the rise in oil prices on the world market or the higher cost of other raw materials can conceal the fact that the roots of the crisis lie in the national bourgeoisie's selfish policy.

At the same time, G. Marchais said, we do not close our eyes to the fact that the present crisis, like the capitalist system itself, is international in character.

In strengthening the working people's international solidarity the revolutionary parties, including the PCF, are seeking a way out of the crisis through the implementation of radical social transformations and through the struggle they are launching against national big capital. [paragraph continues]

In addition, the present crisis affects not only the economy but all spheres of social life, the conditions of work and the distribution of goods, the educational system, ideology and morality, and political institutions.

G. Marchais said that French society needs profound democratic transformations designed to end the rule of capital in the country. It is essential to implement a number of nationalization measures through which control over the basic means of production and distribution will be exercised by the people. Change must be achieved in the administration of the state, transferring it to the representational power of the working people, with the guiding political role being played by the working class. Without these transformations the successes achieved as a result of the social struggle will remain restricted and unstable and will be jeopardized by the forces of capital.

The speaker noted the need to establish new social relations in all spheres of life and develop democracy and self-administration locally, reduce social inequality, and expand collective and individual freedoms.

The communists, he said, are struggling against unemployment and for the creation of new jobs by expanding domestic consumption, for an increase in the working people's purchasing power, the reduction of rents and taxes, the shortening of the working week, and the lowering of the pension age to 60 for men and 55 for women. They are struggling for the expansion of the public sector of production and the nationalization of the most important industrial sectors, including metallurgy, mining and the nuclear industry, and for the provision of optimum living conditions and environmental conservation. The communists favor the creation of organs of genuine local power elected by universal ballot and with real powers and resources.

France is faced with two paths, G. Marchais said: either to adapt to the crisis in the interests of the multinational companies, with all the ensuing catastrophic results for the working people and the entire nation as a whole, or to restrict the rule of capital and to effect profound democratic changes making possible France's advance toward socialism by a democratic path.

The communists will do everything to enable France to avoid the grim future, despair and oppression that the bourgeoisie and the politicians in its service are causing.

Then the speaker dwelled in detail on the problem of mutual relations between the leftwing forces in the country and analyzed the results of the political struggle that developed on the basis of the joint government program signed by the PCF, the French Socialist Party and the Left Radical Movement. He revealed the reasons for the leftwing parties' failure to achieve victory in the 1978 parliamentary election and pointed to the need to intensify work among the working masses and to win over increasingly broad strata of the population to communist ideas.

G. Marchais stressed that the draft resolution submitted for discussion by the PCF Central Committee indicates the need for the unification of all the country's democratic and progressive forces and the attainment of united action, above all at the grass roots level, in the struggle for the French working people's daily requirements.

Then G. Marchais gave a detailed analysis of France's present international situation.

In the past few decades, he continued, the correlation of forces has changed in the world in favor of the forces of national, social and human liberation. The 1917 Great October Revolution in Russia was and remains a decisive event predetermining these changes, and it would be futile to expect the PCF in some way to belittle its significance. The revolution transferred socialism from the sphere of hope to that of practical implementation. The October Revolution was also the signal for a decisive development of mighty forces of progress and peace throughout the world, for other peoples' transition to the building and development of socialism. The transition of a number of countries to the path of socialism made it possible, in historically short periods, to resolve large-scale social, national and human problems. It opened the way to the countries' powerful economic and social development.

The socialist countries' economic, political and military weight has increased considerably. The contradictions of the capitalist world have been aggravated. The policy of peaceful coexistence is objectively helping in the struggle against capitalist exploitation throughout the world, the speaker said.

In the capitalist countries the working class has strengthened, organized itself, and acquired new experience and influence in mighty class battles. The ruling circles must henceforth take increasing account of its organizations. New democratic forces have arisen in many countries, including France, and the struggle for profound political changes has come onto the agenda. Dictatorial regimes have fallen in countries like Portugal, Greece and Spain. The shah's bloody dictatorship, which relied on active U.S. support, has been swept away in Iran.

The national liberation movement has overturned the old colonial system. New peoples like the Vietnamese and Angolans have inscribed their names in the heroic book of the struggle for independence and freedom. Many formerly enslaved countries are now forcing people to heed their voices. They are demanding genuine freedom and the right to dispose of their own resources and control their own development. Together they now play a large part in international organizations and negotiations, and constitute a new and positive factor in the worldwide correlation of forces.

It is precisely under these conditions, in connection with these basic data of world evolution, that the international crisis of capitalism has developed, and it is precisely this which lends it its present depth and uniqueness and raises anew the question of possible solutions. The crises observed in the past have also been international in character, especially the crises that led to the two world wars. But now, under the conditions of the new correlation of forces, imperialism is no longer able to act as it did in the past and resort to war or fascism.

Of course, it has not abandoned the defense of its positions, having considerable potential for this. This is borne out by the counteroffensive it has launched. The main salients of imperialist strategy are the entrenchment of the multinational corporations, the activation of "Atlanticism," ideological warfare against socialism, increasingly frequent encroachments on national sovereignty, and interference in many countries' internal affairs.

While forcing imperialism to alter its strategy, the revolutionary and progressive forces have not yet been able to impose their solution to the serious international problems or to make possible international relations excluding inequality, domination and violence.

In addition, G. Marchais said, problems have arisen in relations between socialist countries, above all between the Soviet Union and China. [paragraph continues]

We say most clearly to the Chinese leaders that it is impossible to work for the welfare of their people and for peace and progress while at the same time regarding the Soviet Union as their main enemy. It is impossible to fight for national sovereignty while at the same time voicing approval of the strengthening of NATO and Atlantic and European integration. We have serious differences with them over this question.

We condemned China's aggression against Vietnam. We believe that Vietnam's aid to the Kampuchean people, who were the victims of genocide, cannot serve as justification for the Chinese aggression. We voiced our satisfaction that the conflict was successfully halted, thanks in particular to the wise position of the Soviet Union. We want the talks which have been initiated to make it possible to determine the foundations for new, friendly cooperation between the countries involved while respecting independence. This is in everyone's interest.

Then the speaker enumerated several major international problems the aggravation of which is creating a real threat to peace. At the same time as the policy of peaceful coexistence is being consolidated in the world at the initative of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, he said, the arms race is continuing to swallow up considerable funds to the detriment of the people's welfare. The forces seeking to jeopardize detente are not abandoning their intrigues, and centers of war and tension persist. At the same time as science and technology have achieved unprecendented development, poverty, hunger and backwardness continue to grow in the world. At the same time as nations are being established and conditions exist for rich and varied international cooperation, the multinational capitalist monopolies are trying to subordinate international exchange to their rule and to break up national production apparatuses. They are supported in their attempts by the imperialist powers and primarily the United States, which is interfering increasingly frequently in the internal affairs of sovereign countries and seeking to impose its strategy of "supranational" integration and to intensify the world's division into hostile blocs.

Our aim, G. Marchais continued, consists of asserting the principles of national sovereignty, independence and noninterference by any power whatever in the affairs of other countries. This applies in particular to France's domestic situation and its activity in the international arena.

But, the speaker continued, what I have said does not mean apathy in the face of all the consequences of the domestic policy pursued by countries--particularly those affecting human rights. We do not recognize the right of the U.S. rulers and exploiters and oppressors of the peoples to brandish this banner in order to conceal the true meaning of their policy.

We are struggling for peace, peaceful coexistence and the peoples' equality. The right to live under conditions of peace is important for all peoples. And, if successes have already been achieved in the sphere of detente, they must now be reinforced and expanded. In the face of the continuing military threat today it is possible to rally the broad masses to action in defense of peace and for disarmament.

France has the opportunity to implement the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act concerning questions of security, cooperation and human rights. Its actions must be aimed at creating a real system of collective security. France can play a positive part in resolving the Near East conflict--which would serve the implementation of the task of turning the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and broad international cooperation.

The PCF, the speaker continued, is attentively following and positively assesses the nonalined countries' movement.

We are struggling for a democratic Europe, for its economic and social progress, for a Europe open to the whole world, an independent and peaceful Europe. It is well known that the PCF was opposed to France's Common Market entry since, in contrast to the preachers of this idea who gave false promises at the time, we asserted that this would not serve the interests of our country and people. Turning to what has happened since then, we are convinced that life has proved us right. But the existence of the Common Market has linked the member countries and created a situation that led us to begin to believe, in 1965, that it would be undesirable to break with it unilaterally.

Efforts are now being made to involve France still further in the West European Community in the interests of monopoly capital. That is why the PCF resolutely objects to the expansion of the Common Market and to France's integration in the West European and Atlantic conglomerate under U.S. tutelage, and with the FRG playing a blatantly dominant role.

Stressing the need for solidarity among the communist parties, the speaker pointed out that the international communist and workers movement no longer has a single center and that diverse conditions has arisen under which the fraternal parties are struggling. A number of communist parties control their states' affairs while others--and they are in the majority--are struggling against class enemies who still wield political and economic power. All this attests to the maturity and growth of the communist movement.

The recognition of this diversity, like the differences existing between the communist parties, should not be regarded as an obstacle to the development of their cooperation and international solidarity.

Internationalist solidarity and actions in favor of a new and positive policy for France in the world are an inalienable part of our strategy of struggle for the democratic and national solution of the crisis which has struck France.

G. Marchais dwelled in particular on the PCF's position with respect to the socialist countries. In the face of the fierce daily campaign in the bourgeois press and on radio and television against the socialist countries, the communists cannot adhere to cautious neutrality, which would be a concession to this very strong pressure. They must give a clear assessment, proceeding from class interests. To the question whether these countries' peoples have built socialism well, we reply without any reservations: Yes, they have built it well both for themselves and for us.

Above all, we note that these countries have put an end to man's exploitation of man, to the use of labor solely in the interests of the capitalists' profit. We note that they have liquidated the social vices inherent in the countries that remain under the aegis of capitalism and colonialism and the difficulties influencing the life of hundreds of millions of people, to wit: hunger, poverty, illiteracy, lack of culture, uncertainty for the future, and tremendous social inequality. We also note that the socialist countries' economic development rates considerably surpass the crisis-gripped capitalist states. While U.S., FRG and French industrial production only slightly more than doubled in 1960-1978, the socialist countries' indicators more than quadrupled.

This development is having a positive influence on the living standards of these states' population and, in contrast to the capitalist countries, is taking place without unemployment, growing inflation or the inhuman stepping up of labor intensification, that is, without everything that characterizes the conditions of capitalist society.

It is impossible, the speaker continued, to ignore the progress which the socialist system has insured in the sphere of education, health care, culture, sports, the organization of leisure and free time, social security and democracy.

As for the development of democracy--the sphere that arouses particulary frenzied attacks from the opponents of socialism--here progress is indisputable. There can be no doubt that the development of democracy must be recorded to the credit of the socialist system. As a result of profound social transformations, the working people and their organizations have acquired extensive new rights at enterprises and in all their life's activity. This process is being developed, although much is still to be done.

Having said that in some socialist countries violations of democracy have occurred linked with the personality cult, the speaker noted that the CPSU itself--and this is greatly to its credit--has condemned this practice and taken steps to eliminate it. At the same time he repeated certain critical remarks in connection with the fact that, in his opinion, there is an underestimation of "the universal democratic requirements of which socialism is the bearer" in the socialist world.

The policy of the socialist countries, G. Marchais continued, has undoubtedly promoted the creation of a new correlation of forces in the world arena in favor of social and national liberation. The existence and resolute actions of the socialist countries have insured for mankind over 30 years of existence without world wars. The socialist countries, and particularly the Soviet Union, play a significant role in rendering material and political aid to the national liberation movements in their struggle for independence and social development. Their support is also a decisive element in the struggle of the working class in the capitalist countries.

All these factors attest to the supremacy of the new socialist system which the socialist countries have created, and this gives us grounds for assessing their overall effect as positive.

The French communists realize that, if they can outline today their original path for advancing to socialism, they are considerabley indebted for this to the existence of the socialist countries. The building of a socialist society must stem from each country's real conditions, so there cannot be any one model. The more countries embark on the path of socialist development, the more diverse forms there will be. But this does not rule out the existence of general natural laws, general principles such as above all the need to abolish private ownership of the basic means of production and exchange, and the establishment of the power of the working class and its allies.

Displaying a readiness to draw lessons from the socialist countries' experience and giving a positive overall assessment of that experience, and also displaying concern for the further development of international solidarity in the struggle for common goals, the French communists consistently after a political course serving the interests of the struggle for socialism in France and equally the interests of socialism in the international arena.

The speaker then dwelled on several questions of intraparty work, noting that the communists' activity is of a revolutionary nature.

G. Marchais noted the historical necessity of the leading role of the working class and the importance of the party's work in developing the class consciousness of the working people and in consolidating their unity of action.

Our working class, all the French people, our youth need hope, prospects and ideals, which are what we offer. [paragraph continues]

On the basis of all the achievements and experience accumulated since the October Revolution we are struggling for radical transformations in French society. This is a complex, hard, long struggle. There is a risk of error, and sometimes we do make errors.

G. Marchais pointed out that the PCF pays great attention to the problems encountered by women and young people.

The speaker also stressed the need to enhance the role of the communist press and above all of the newspaper L'HUMANITE, central organ of the PCF.

Touching on the proposed changes in PCF rules, the speaker stated that the French communists' ideology is the scientific socialism founded by Marx and Engels and their great successors, primarily V.I. Lenin. It is precisely the formula "scientific socialism" and not Marxism-Leninism which it is proposed to include in the party rules. The PCF is a revolutionary party the organizational principle of which is democratic centralism.

G. Marchais noted the considerable growth of the party ranks since the previous congress. By the end of 1978 the PCF numbered 702,000 members united in 28,000 party cells, of which 10,000 are directly in enterprises. But the potential in this sphere is far from exhausted, the speaker said. In the next few years we can and must raise the PCF's numerical strength to 1 million and the number of production cells to 12,000.

The PCF is a revolutionary party which belongs to the people. It is a mighty force for the country's social and national renewal, G. Marchais said in conclusion. Noting the significance of the widespread precongress discussion, he expressed the conviction that the 23d PCF Congress will arm the party with new means for rallying the united people's movement necessary to emerge from the crisis in the struggle for social progress, against unemployment and for democratic freedoms and national independence. The 23d congress will give our party new means for resolving the historic task of the French people's advance along a democratic path to socialism.

On behalf of the delegates and party leadership, PCF Politburo member Maxime Gremetz greeted the representatives of the fraternal communist and workers parties and progressive and national liberation movements attending the congress.

The congress began debating the report.

11 May Debates

LD161217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Kharlanov dispatch: "23d French Communist Party Congress: Voice of Working France"]

[Excerpts] Paris, 11 May--The 23d French Communist Party [PCF] Congress is continuing its work in the Palace of Sport in the Paris suburb of Saint-Ouen. The delegates are discussing the PCF Central Committee report delivered by PCF Secretary General G. Marchais.

(G. Sangedols), mayor of the city of Saint-Etienne and a party veteran, was one of the first to mount the rostrum. He spoke of the serious situation that has taken shape in the Saint-Etienne industrial region, the growth in unemployment and the production stoppages in a number of plants and factories.

G. Ansart, member of the PCF Politburo, dwelt on problems of French ferrous metallurgy, which is experiencing a grave crisis.

A vivid, moving speech was made by Anne-Marie Boissonnade, elected congress delegate for the PCF federation in the department of Herault. This region of France has the highest level of unemployment, and one-eighth of the ablebodied population cannot find work. In recent years the number of peasant farms has been halved, and the winemakers of the south are growing poorer every year. The expected entry of Spain, Greece and Portugal into the EEC threatens to intensify competition still further in the agricultural market and to ruin new categories of French peasants. This is why the PCF, along with the communists of Greece and Portugal, is opposed to enlarging the Common Market's and its pernicious agrarian policy.

Workers, peasants and representatives of the labor intelligentsia mounted the rostrum in succession. In their speeches they analyzed the activities of party organizations in recent years and emphasized the need to strengthen the PCF's ranks and raise the standard of its organizational and ideological work. Party membership has increased in recent years, said M. Guintard, delegate from the department of Vendee, and many young people have joined its ranks. This makes increased educational work necessary.

C. Mazauric, delegate from the department of Bouches du Rhone, dwelt especially on the need to struggle against "left" and right revisionism and against attempts to drag bourgeois and social democratic ideology into the party. A real ideological war has been mounted against us, he said, and we must respond militantly to the actions of those who, hiding behind their party card, seek to undermine party unity.

Along with the "chewing-gum civilization" exported to us from the United States, National Assembly Deputy J. Ralite said, the most reactionary, anticommunist ideas are also being imported into France. Moreover, big capital, which has established a monopoly of the mass news media, preaches such ideas even in France itself. The cultural sphere is just as much a field for the struggle of ideas as the political sphere, and communists have no right to resign themselves to the philosophy of social despair and hopelessness now being propagandized in the West.

The congress delegates spoke of the role that the communist press and progressive publishing houses must play in the struggle against the anticommunist and anti-Soviet campaigns being mounted in capitalist countries. They pointed out that the ballyhoo over "human rights" in the bourgeois press is most frequently a cover for a systematic and broadly financed policy aimed at undermining communist ideas. This is why firmness is required of French communists in defending the ideology to which they adhere.

The presence of numerous delegations from fraternal communist and workers parties and national liberation movements in the Palace of Sport auditorium attests to active international support for the French communists' struggle in the interests of the country's working people. A representative of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is a guest of the PCF congress for the first time. The PCF has protested the fact that the authorities refused entry into France to the delegation of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, which had been invited to the congress.

Speaking from the congress platform, PCF Politburo member M. Gremetz said that French communists rate highly the fraternal support given them by other communist and workers parties and progressive movements in the world. [paragraph continues]

The development of the socialist countries, the upsurge in the struggle of workers and other antimonopoly forces in capitalist countries, and the strengthening of the national liberation movement are opening up broad prospects for the struggle against imperialism and for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. Since its creation, M. Gremetz emphasized, the PCF has made international solidarity one of the foundations of its policy. These traditions of friendship and solidarity forged in struggle have always been and will continue to be preserved!

The congress is continuing its work.

The CPSU delegation attending the 23d PCF Congress met with communists of the Paris working-class suburb of Vitry. The Soviet guests were greeted warmly by representatives of local party organizations.

Ponomarev Remarks

LD161015 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent and TASS report: "Solidarity Meeting; B.N. Ponomarev's Speech"]

[Text] Paris, 12 May--A mass meeting of the working people of Paris' "Red Belt" was held in the French capital's workers' suburb of Bobigny, in an auditorium bearing the name of Pablo Neruda.

Etienne Fajon, member of the French Communist Party [PCF] Central Committee, warmly welcomed the CPSU delegation and the representatives of the other fraternal parties taking part in the solidarity meeting, on behalf of the 23d congress delegates and all French communists. At this moment, he said, international meetings are taking place in 20 other French cities. They are a demonstration of the close ties of international solidarity uniting French communists with the entire international communist movement in the struggle against imperialism and for social progress, national independence, peace, democracy and socialism.

The Great October Socialist Revolution, the speaker said, caused the first breach in the system of capitalist oppression and opened the way for the world's peoples toward social and national liberation. Thanks to the might of the socialist community and the peace policy pursued by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, for over 30 years now man has known no world war.

The French communists, E. Fajon said, have always adhered and will continue to adhere to the guideline of international solidarity.

B.N. Ponomarev, head of the CPSU delegation, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, who was welcomed with prolonged applause, delivered a speech at the meeting. He conveyed to all French communists and working people fraternal greetings and good wishes from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

We heard with interest and attention the report delivered by Comrade G. Marchais, general secretary of your party, B.N. Ponomarev said. The Soviet communists display lively interest in the PCF's activity. [paragraph continues]

And we wish you great successes in the struggle for the French people's vital interests, for their right to make decisions and work on their own land, for democracy and socialism!

Speaking about the CPSU and the Soviet people's daily concerns, B.N. Ponomarev noted that our society has now entered a stage of its development when the enormous potential of the socialist system is being revealed more and more fully and comprehensively.

This applies to all spheres of the life of the country and people--to the city and the countryside, the economy, the people's living standards, science, culture, art, and social and political problems. The widespread and intensive renewal of fixed production capital and the further buildup of the country's economic potential on the basis of the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution are being carried out in the economy. In the social sphere it is a case of large-scale measures for the further improvement of the people's well-being and the unprecedented improvement of the cultural standards of all strata of our country's population.

In the political plane we are constantly perfecting and intensifying Soviet socialist democracy, which has been embodied in the new Constitution.

These general features of the present stage of the development of Soviet society are embodied in thousands of specific accomplishments.

Those who visited the Soviet Union a few years ago frequently do not recognize the places they once visited. For instance, our Siberia, which at the beginning of the century was a sparsely populated region, a place of hard labor and exile, is truly being reborn. The development of oil and gas deposits in the western part of Siberia began only quite recently, yet now we are obtaining about half of all Soviet oil from there. Just a few years have elapsed since the building of the gigantic Baykal-Amur Railroad began, making it possible to develop the colossal resources of Eastern Siberia and the Far East. One-third of the railroad has already been comissioned. An imposing project is being implemented in our country to transform and boost agriculture and the Soviet countryside in the Russian Non-Chernozem Zone.

The unprecedented scale of construction in our country, our steady rates of economic development, the world's highest standard of education for the broad masses of the population--these are all obvious facts, but the main point is the goal to which all our development is subordinated--the creation of the most just, humane and democratic system, a system that insures for the working person the necessary opportunities for the all-round development of his personality.

Everything for the well-being of man, everything for the sake of man--this demand remains the basic, determining law of Soviet society. And it is therefore natural that in the period 1974 through 1978 almost three times more funds were provided for the people's welfare in our country than in the previous 5 years. It is therefore natural that we have no unemployment. We have the lowest, most stable prices for bread, transport and housing, which do not change over the decades.

A very great achievement for our system is that we have free medical services for the entire population and free education from the first grade of primary school to VUZ graduation.

Every Soviet person knows that he lives better today than yesterday and will live better tomorrow than today.

Of course, we still have unresolved problems which are natural in every large-scale and--this is the main point--every new undertaking. Our party speaks about them openly and outlines ways of overcoming the difficulties and making maximum use of the reserves and advantages of the socialist system.

But the main thing, of course, is not individual difficulties or problems. It is an open secret that the Soviet people, who made tremendous sacrifices in the struggle to save world civilization from fascist barbarity during World War II, have been obliged to bear the heavy burden of the defense of world peace in the postwar period.

The actual implementation of our projects and the attainment of our goals demand the organic combination of the activity of our party and state organs and the vital, active initiative of all working people. In practice that means that the plant director and the worker, the minister and the scientist act as brothers in arms in a single common cause.

The essence of our party's policy in the sphere of democracy, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev put it, lies in the fact that "Soviet democracy can and must serve economic progress better, and economic progress has always been and remains the foundation, the material basis for insuring more and more fully the Soviet people's rights and freedoms and further flowering of socialist democracy."

Everything our people have achieved, B.N. Ponomarev continued, they have achieved on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, combining loyalty to that great teaching with the constant creative development of its fundamental ideas. Marxism-Leninism gives us the opportunity to analyze the past in order to learn from its lessons, it enables us to understand deeply the essence of the processes of social development, to notice promptly the problems which arise and outline their correct solution. Marxism-Leninism enables us, by summing up the results of the path we have traveled, to see far into the future and map out reliable guidelines for further advances.

Characterizing the USSR's foreign policy, B.N. Ponomarev said:

The broad people's masses see clearly that the Soviet Union is consistently implementing a peace-loving foreign policy. It flows from the very nature of socialism, from the noble aims it sets itself. By fighting actively and purposefully against the danger of war and preparations for war, and for peace and the peoples' security, the CPSU makes its contribution to the common struggle of the communist movement and the entire workers and democratic movement for peace and social progress.

A particularly great deal has been done on this plane in the seventies, when the CPSU put forward the peace program at its 24th and 25th congresses. Successes along the path of implementing this program helped to a significant extent in achieving the turn from the "cold war" to detente, which now largely determines the course and nature of the development of events in the international arena.

The assertion of the principles of peaceful coexistence, the deepening of cooperation and the consolidation of security have, as you know, promoted a new upsurge in the struggle of the workers and national liberation movement. In response to this, imperialism has launched a frenzied anticommunist campaign, demanding that the socialist countries renounce solidarity with fighters for the cause of national and social liberation and threatening to undermine detente. And anti-Sovietism has become the pivot of this campaign, above all the lie about the "Soviet military threat." [paragraph continues]

This is a malicious fabrication by the enemies of peace and detente, the imperialists and the Beijing leaders. This fabrication was needed to deceive the working people and whitewash imperialism--the main source of the arms race and the danger of war.

In fact, those Western circles which are to blame for the deterioration of the world situation in recent years cover themselves with talk about the Soviet threat. Here particular danger is presented by the aggressive NATO bloc's importunate course toward the continuing race for all types of arms. A sinister threat to peace, a threat to mankind thereby arises. This dangerous development of events is aggravated by the fact that the Chinese leadership has become increasingly active recently in the role of NATO's accomplice.

We believe that it is high time for all advocates of peace to set about finding a practical solution to the most urgent, acute problem of today--ending the arms race and bringing about disarmament.

It is precisely these questions which are constantly at the center of our state's foreign policy activity. No country in the world has put forward so many major initiatives aimed at ending the arms race, whether for conventional or nuclear arms, as the Soviet Union! An indefatigable struggle is waged for detente and lasting peace by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

This year sees the 40th anniversary of the start of World War II. That war raged in the fields of France and the Soviet Union. We remember well that imperialism managed to unlash that war, in particular, because a split in the workers movement prevented the proletariat and all working people from wrecking its plans. Today it is important to prevent a new war. That would be a tragedy which this time could lead to catastrophic consequences for mankind.

The might of real socialism now exists and the international working class possesses tremendous force and potential. However, if the world working class is to play its part effectively in the struggle against war as well as in the struggle for social progress, it is very important to step up further cooperation between all its detachments and all political parties acting in its name, above all communist parties. Soviet communists value the fact that the PCF is fighting actively for detente and lasting peace and against the arms race.

People in the Soviet Union know well, value and remember the brilliant speeches by Jean Jaures against imperialist war, Paul Lafargue's impassioned pamphlets exposing the system which engenders wars, and Barbusse's angry "Fire" [Le Feu]. M. Thorez' wise, prophetic tenet put forward during the cold war years on the unchanging nature, in any conditions, of the French people's friendly attitude toward the Soviet Union--the bulwark of peace and socialism--is inforgettable for us.

New proof of the life-giving force of internationalism is provided by the recent campaign for solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people, which spread all over the world. We value at its true worth the fact that the PCF came out in support of the Vietnamese people and their struggle against Chinese aggression.

Our country gave powerful support to Vietnam, firmly declared its readiness to fulfill its duty as an ally of Socialist Vietnam, and sought the ending of the criminal war. The Soviet Union's resolute and at the same time restrained stance met with deep understandings from the world public.

Coming out in favor of peace throughout the world and against all the intrigues of the forces of imperialism and aggression, Soviet people follow attentively how the situation is developing on the European Continent.

In Europe a great deal depends on the development of relations between our countries. The recent Soviet-French summit talks were a major new step in their development. The program signed in Moscow for the further development of cooperation between the USSR and France in favor of detente and peace is intended to exert a beneficial influence on the situation in Europe and on international relations in general. This and other important documents adopted during the talks are intended to give new impetus to Soviet-French cooperation.

The agreements reached at the latest meeting create favorable potential for strengthening the feelings of friendship and the sympathies between the Soviet and French peoples. The implementation of the documents which have been signed will be to the benefit of the peoples of both countries and of the cause of peace and international security. It can be said that if the USSR and France cooperate closely in the international arena in the interests of peace and security and if there is firm, long-lasting accord between our countries, this will be a major contribution to averting war in Europe and to normalizing the political climate outside Europe. And Soviet communists are glad that our two parties are acting jointly in that direction.

Soviet and French communists, B.N. Ponomarev said in conclusion, are linked by ties of ancient and firm friendship and solidarity. Our parties are linked by the commonality of their positions on fundamental problems of today. History and the present day, our joint struggle in the past and present, have created a firm basis for further developing and strengthening cooperation between the CPSU and the PCF for the sake of the Soviet and French peoples, in the interests of peace and socialism. And no intrigues by the class enemy or by opportunists can undermine that fraternal friendship, tempered in long battles for peace, democracy and socialism and against all manifestations of anti-communism and anti-Sovietism.

B.N. Ponomarev gave the French communists a gift from Soviet communists--a portrait of Vladimir Ilich Lenin. The ovation in the auditorium continued unabated for some time. The meeting participants chanted the slogans: "Long live international solidarity!" and "Long live communism!"

The meeting ended with the singing of the "Internationale."

NATO DEFENSE COMMITTEE COMMUNIQUE COUNTER TO DETENTE

LD162156 Moscow TASS in English 2114 GMT 16 May 79 LD

["Contrary to the Interests of Detente"--TASS headline]

[Text] Brussels, May 16, TASS--A two-day session of the NATO Defence Planning Committee has closed at the headquarters of the North Atlantic bloc in Evere (near Brussels). It was attended by defence ministers of the bloc member countries, with the exception of France and Greece, which pulled out of its military organisation.

The whole keynote of the debate at the session and the decisions taken by its participants indicate that the NATO leaders are persisting in their course for building-up the military potential of the bloc under the far-fetched pretext of a "threat from the East." At the same time, the participants in the session reckoning with the sentiments of broad public in the world for a deepening of the process of international detente, could not pass over the concrete steps made in this direction recently. As is pointed out in particular in the final communique of the session, its participants welcome the attainment between the USSR and the USA of agreements in principle on key issues of the essence of the talks on signing a treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

But as follows from the final communique the concrete steps planned by the participants in the session in the military field run counter to these pronouncements. Thus, in particular, the ministers have passed a decision to prolong till 1986 the implementation of the commitments on an annual three percent increase in the military spending of the NATO member countries in real count. Apart from it, they intend to increase to reach 4.5 billion dollars the fund for financing the "programme for the development of military infrastructure" for the next five years. This is two and a half times as much as was appropriated with these aims over the period from 1975 to 1979.

The communique also says that the NATO military leaders have decided to start a "modernisation of the nuclear forces" of the bloc in Europe.

The sessions of the Eurogroup and the NATO Defence Planning Committee, which were held in Evere, have shown that the fashion in the bloc is as before set by the forces trying to impede the process of international detente and disarmament. Such a course runs counter to the interests of peace and detente in the European Continent.

OVERALL PICTURE OF USSR-FRG RELATIONS A POSITIVE ONE

LD170855 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Grigoryants report under rubric "Post-Helsinki Europe": "A Year of Important Changes"]

[Text] Bonn--Thrilling open spaces, mighty rivers, cities and settlements which have grown up on the permafrost. Factories that seem to prop up the Northern Lights with their chimneys. And people--beautiful, welcoming, courageous, frank. Klaus (Bednarts), West German television correspondent in Moscow, reports from the polar regions.

The showing of an objective film on Soviet Siberia on FRG television is a remarkable phenomenon. The events of 12 years ago spring to mind. At that time I saw a fairly prominent repo ter being all but lynched in Cologne at a meeting of the "Association of Silesian Germans" for making a more or less objective film about the western territories of Poland. Now the FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, which entertains no friendly feelings toward our country, is publishing a eulogistic review of a television film on Siberia. It is not the newspaper that has changed. Public opinion in the country has changed. In the opinions of many FRG citizens, substantial positive changes have taken place on Soviet-West German relations in general in the last few years.

Profound shifts in the world arena, the USSR's persistent peace-loving course and the changes in Bonn's policy which began when the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] and the Free Democratic Party came to power have made it possible to begin a new chapter in Soviet-West German relations. But of course, the objective preconditions for such a turn were not sufficient in themselves. There was also a need for firm will, farsightedness, courage and state wisdom on the part of figures responsible for policymaking. Thinking back over the last 10 years, observers note Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's tremendous personal contribution to the normalization of relations between the USSR and the FRG.

The other day, we correspondents accredited in Bonn met with Willy Brandt, SPD chairman, a man who was in at the beginning of the FRG's Ostpolitik. Reviewing world events, he assessed positively the present state of Soviet-West German relations. "We have grounds for satisfaction in this connection," he noted. "At the same time we must continue to develop bilateral relations."

Brandt stressed the great significance of L.I. Brezhnev's visit to the FRG last year. "On the basis of the summit talks which took place then, as well as the joint documents adopted as a result of the visit," he said, "our two countries, which are so different politically, economically and in other respects, have achieved significant successes in developing cooperation."

A year has passed since the May visit by our party and state leader to the Rhine. Not a long time, but sufficient to confirm that this visit opened a new stage in the expansion of Soviet-West German ties in all spheres, in the development of political detente and in creating the preconditions for it to spread to the military sphere.

Taking into account the two states' weight and influence in international life, it may be said that a great deal depends on their positions and their mutual understanding in resolving the problems of military detente. And not only in Europe. In the past year official Bonn has come out more than once in favor of implementing arms-limitation measures. The new proposals contained in L.I. Brezhnev's election speech were received favorably on the Rhine. The time has come for concrete actions and decision, in particular at the Vienna talks, where the socialist states' constructive initiatives have been awaiting a response for many months now. This is all the more urgent in that the Pentagon and influential circles in West Germany itself are trying to halt the positive process in Europe, push the continent into a new round of armaments and transform FRG territory into a launching pad for new systems of so-called Eurostrategic weapons.

As regards bilateral relations between the USSR and the FRG, they took a new step forward in the past year. Economic cooperation is now based on the firm foundations of a long-term agreement through the end of the century, which was signed during L.I. Brezhnev's stay on the Rhine in May 1978. A noteworthy fact: In that year our reciprocal trade reached a record level for the whole postwar period.

Reports of this kind have become common in economic reviews in local newspapers: "The Krupp concern in building an electric steel plant at the metallurgical combine at Oskol, near Kursk, with an annual capacity of 1.45 million tons. The (Klekner) concern has received a major order to supply a consignment of pipes to the Soviet Union...." "Salzgitter is expanding cooperation with Soviet specialists: the firm will deliver equipment for the Kazan Organicheskiy Sintez production association and for the Sverodonetsk Polyethylene production complex." "Siemens and Leningrad's Svetlana plant are developing a new type of product which will also be delivered to the FRG...."

This refers to the FRG's most powerful industrial associations, which between them create the weather not just in that country's economy. Life shows that one of the most important results of L.I. Brezhnev's visit to the Rhine and of his personal contacts and talks with captains of West German industry lies in the fact that the most influential FRG business circles are thinking in terms of years and decades of broad and mutually advantageous cooperation with the Soviet Union.

It is probably difficult to remember a year so rich in and full of cultural exchanges. Soviet performers and artistic collectives became even more frequent guests of the FRG. The Leningrad Bolshoy Drama Theater is on tour in Hamburg and the Kirov Opera in Wiesbaden, and performances by other Soviet collectives are to come. This is one more tangible result of the change in the political climate and the growth of mutual trust and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the FRG.

Yes, in a short space of time relations between the USSR and the FRG, two countries which not so long ago were at opposite poles on major international questions, have acquired a new quality. Much has been done, but we must not close our eyes to the unresolved problems, difficulties and artificially created obstacles.

Influential forces in the FRG are trying to prevent rapid progress in our mutual relations. This refers above all to the bloc of the Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union [CDU-CSU] parties, in whose political view of the world little has changed.

After the May summit slight differences appeared in the CDU and CSU position. Kohl, chairman of the CDU, gave assurances that his party's policy is based on the reality of the existence of the Eastern treaties, above all the Moscow treaty. Strauss, CSU leader, said that the FRG's Eastern treaties are binding and must be observed. Both figures, albeit with reservations, then came out in favor of developing both economic and political ties with the Soviet Union. Unfortunately, these elements of realism did not receive further development, although there are many sober people in the ranks of the Christian Democrats who would like to implement a more realistic policy toward the socialist states.

The opposition leaders continue their course of confrontation. They fan war hysteria, attributing malicious, aggressive intentions to our country. They are apparently counting on success at next year's parliamentary elections, gambling on the anticommunist prejudices of ordinary people. They are thereby sacrificing the country's real foreign policy interests, which demand the further strengthening of trust between the Soviet Union and the FRG and the deepening of cooperation between them.

All the same, summing up, you inevitably come to this conclusion: The period since May 1978 has been a time of important new shifts in Soviet-West German relations. Time shows that these good relations are bringing more and more benefits to both our peoples and to all European countries, and that they serve the interests of universal peace, security and cooperation.

CHERNYAYEV-LED CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS FROM WEST BERLIN

LD161553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 79 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A CPSU delegation headed by A.S. Chernyayev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, which went to West Berlin to take part in the May Day celebrations of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, returned to Moscow 5 May.

H. BROWN ARRIVES MADRID, TO PRESSURE SPAIN ON JOINING NATO

LD161958 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, May 16, TASS--U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown has today arrived in Madrid for a two-day official visit from Brussels, where he attended the session of the NATO Defence Planning Committee. The local press expressed on the eve of his arrival the supposition that the aim of Harold Brown's visit is to bring pressure to bear on Spain in order to draw it into the North Atlantic bloc. It is reported that the U.S. defence secretary has today met with Adolfo Suarez, chairman of the Spanish Government. During his stay in Madrid, he will also meet with Spanish Army leaders and then visit the U.S. Naval Rota Base in the south of Spain. According to press reports, Harold Brown is in addition to prepare the visit to Spain on June 1-2 of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

KUDRYAVTSEV CRITICIZES BEGIN ON PALESTINIAN RESETTLEMENT

LD161611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Kudryavtsev article under the rubric "Political Observer's Commentary:" "Metastases of Treason"]

[Text] The expansion of Israeli armed aggression against Lebanon (and not only in the south) again shows all the thinking world that the separate "peace" treaty between Israel and Egypt leads not to cessation of aggression, not to a peaceful settlement in the Near East, but to the encouragement and, I would say, facilitation of continued aggression. As-Sadat's betrayal of general Arab interests unties Israel's hands not only on questions of further armed aggression but also in all its foreign policy, above all with respect to the Arab world.

Israeli aircraft and artillery are raining missiles and shells not only on the Palestinians --which is emphasized in statements and reports by Israeli ruling circles--but also on Lebanese territory and the Lebanese population, which are an integral part of the Arab East. As Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss said, "Lebanon adheres entirely to the principle of Arab solidarity." It would therefore be naive to regard the present aggression as being aimed only against Palestinians and Lebanese. It is aimed against all Arab countries and peoples. In the separate treaty with Egypt, Israel received, as its rulers believe, the opportunity, relying on aggression, on armed forces and on As-Sadat's treason, to try to dictate its political will to all Arab countries. That is the only way to assess Israeli Prime Minister Begin's 8 May statement.

In this statement Begin, threatening a still greater expansion of aggression against Lebanon, proposed conclusion of a "peace treaty" with that country, although it is well known that Lebanon is not at war with Israel but is the victim of unprovoked aggression on Israel's part. What Begin proposes is tantamount to an attempt to dictate his conditions to the whole of the Near East. In offering Lebanon "peace" Begin states at the same time that this "peace" will not be an obstacle to the continued physical destruction of the Palestinians. Begin openly supports and encourages Lebanese separatists from the camp of the rightwing Christian gangs headed by "Major" Haddad, a traitor to the Lebanese people. Here he stated provocatively that "Israel will not betray the Christians" (he uttered this sentence in English, thereby demonstrating who it was intended for) This statement indicates that Israeli ruling circles have taken a course of kindling religious discord in the Near East. This principle on Begin's part is aimed at undermining Lebanon, where most of the population are Muslims and to which he is hypocritically offering "peace." It is also directed against Saudi Arabia, which declares that there can be no general settlement without the liberation of East Jerusalem, where Islamic holy places are located. In essence Begin is calling for a religious war, counting on the support of the appropriate section of European and American public opinion.

But apart from that, Begin is also making political demands on Lebanon, demands which recall the general anti-Arab orientation of Israeli policy, which is not only anti-Palestinian or anti-Lebanese. Begin demands the withdrawal from Lebanon of the Syrian Armed Forces which are there in accordance with an Arab League resolution, as part of the pan-Arab forces intended to promote the fulfillment of UN Security Council resolutions on Lebanese affairs. If it is recalled that the Israeli aggressors are interested in southern Lebanon as a buffer zone between it and the Israeli province of West Galilee (with a large Palestinian population, this province was to form part of the planned Arab state in accordance with the 1947 UN resolution, and also as a bridgehead against Syria, it is not hard to guess that the so-called Begin peace offered to Lebanon is also directed against Syria.)

Begin demands that Lebanon send all Palestinian refugees to Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Libya, although it is widely known that, apart from reasserting the right of the Arab people of Palestine to create their own sovereign state on Palestinian soil, the United Nations, supported on this question by the world progressive public, also demands the implementation of the Palestinians' right to return to their homes. The Israeli aggressors' impudence has been fermented to such an extent by As-Sadat's treason that Begin is shamelessly attempting to stifle the Palestinian resistance movement using the Arab countries themselves, counting above all, naturally, on support from the United States, which declares that it will never recognize the PLO and will not enter into any relations with it unless it recognizes Israel. What cynicism, to demand that the Palestinians shake and kiss the hands that are stifling them! But the Israeli aggressors' cynicism does not stop there. According to Begin, the Arab countries must pledge not only to grant the refugees land but also to allot resources for financing this resettlement.

But Begin is clearly taking on "concerns" about the Arab East which are beyond his powers. Lebanon has angrily rejected his proposals. It is not even necessary to mention the reaction of the courageous Palestinian people, fighting to the death against the Israeli killers on whose hands is the blood of old men, women and children. The boycott of As-Sadat's Egypt on the part of the vast majority of Arab countries is intensifying. The 10th conference of foreign ministers of Muslim countries, taking place in Fez (Morocco) (with the participation of about 40 states and representatives of international Muslim organizations), did not permit Egyptian representatives to take part, called the present session the "Jerusalem liberation session" and declared 1979 "Palestine year."

The chief conclusion drawn from the latest links in the Israeli position proclaimed by Begin is that the Palestinian question has been and remains the pivotal problem in a general Near East settlement. Without its being resolved in a way that is just to the Palestinian people, there can be no peace in that extensive region. The basic interests of all Arab peoples are focused on the Palestinian problem. Without support for the Palestinian Arab people's just cause, it is impossible to defend the freedom and independence of all Arab peoples or to eliminate the hotbed of military danger in the Near East, which threatens new wars not only within the region but outside it. That is why whoever wants peace in the Near East, whoever seeks to remove the threat of the danger of war which emanates from the Near East, must give all-round support to the courageous Arab people of Palestine fighting for the right to live in their native land. Their struggle is closely interwoven with the struggle for peace and the security of all peoples throughout the world.

SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION, SARKIS TALKS WITH AL-ASAD

LD161159 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 15, TASS--Peaceful south Lebanese villages have again become the target of the armed provocations of Israel and its puppets, the right-wing separatists. Yesterday evening the Israeli artillery and gangs from the so-called "South Lebanon Defence Army" opened fire at the populated locality of Rihan and the adjoining districts. Shelled also were the Palestine refugee camps of Ar-Rashidiyah and Al-Baydah, located near the town of Tyre. Taking part in the provocative sortie were Israeli war planes. Gunboats of the aggressor cruised off the Lebanese coast.

Acting on Tel Aviv's instructions, the separatist leader Haddad continues to blackmail the population of the Lebanese villages located in the sector bordering on Israel. He sent an ultimatum to the inhabitants of one more populated locality--Shakra, demanding that they should join unconditionally the "independent state of southern Lebanon" which he had proclaimed. In case of refusal, the Israeli placemen threatened to raze the village to the ground. Fleeing from the reign of terror unleashed by the thugs from Haddad's "army," the Lebanese are compelled to abandon their native places and move to the central districts of the country. According to press reports, up to 95 per cent of the population has already left the south Lebanese villages of Braashit and Shakr.

The situation has aggravated sharply during the past 24 hours in the Lebanese capital, too. In the highland areas near Beirut armed detachments of the right-wing Katib Party have provoked clashes with detachments of the national-patriotic forces. Fierce clashes between separate units of the conservative "Lebanese Front" occurred in the eastern and south eastern sectors of the capital. According to preminimary data, about 40 persons were killed or wounded during the fighting.

Damascus, May 15, TASS--Negotiations between President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis, paying an official visit to Syria, are now under way here. According to press reports, the sides are discussing the question of normalising the situation in the Lebanon, as well as other problems of mutual interest.

In a press statement President Hafiz al-Asad confirmed that Syria's stand remained unchanged. Syria is prepared to render the lawful Lebanese authorities the necessary assistance in the interests of strengthening the sovereignty of the Lebanon and stopping the civil war in that country.

The Syrian newspapers note that the Syrian-Lebanese summit meeting is of particular importance in the conditions of Israel's growing aggression against the Lebanese state.

PALESTINE DAY MARKED BY INCREASED ARAB SOLIDARITY

LD161321 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1830 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] Today is Palestine Day. For over 30 years on this day Palestinians and other Arab peoples have protested Israel's usurpation of the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. The struggle to justly resolve the Palestine question has quickly become a sort of test by which the political positions of some Arab leaders or regimes are determined in the Arab world. Until recently no one in the Arab world dared to deny support to the tormented people of Palestine, who were the victims of a dirty imperialist scheme and of the expansionist ambitions of the Zionist rulers of Israel. This year, Palestine Day is marked by bitter treason for the Arab people, treason that is embodied in the documents signed by the As-Sadat regime which proclaimed a so-called peace with the Zionists on their own terms. They are terms of annexation, expansion, continued terrorism and severe repression against the Palestinians.

Under the cover of peace talks, the aggressors continue to settle in Palestinian territory, driving out Arab inhabitants and turning theminto refugees. Begin and As-Sadat want to conceal this tyranny with the fig leaf of pseudoautonomy although the Palestinian people themselves, in the occupied land or any other place where fate has brought these homeless people, firmly reject such a false solution to their national question.

On Palestine Day it is appropriate to recall this because no one throughout history has escaped punishment for betrayal of the interests of a whole people. The As-Sadat regime has already been forced to pay for its hostile actions toward the Palestinians.

The entire Arab world has defended the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine. It is no exaggeration to say that the Arab world has not been for many years as cohesive and united as it is today, fully determined to resist its enemies and their collaborators.

The dangers to the Palestinians and the entire Arab world as a result of the American-Israeli-Egyptian collusion are indeed very grave. This was stated for example, in the message of the Afro-Asian organization on the occasion of Palestine Day. The organization called on the Arab countries and their governments to observe greater vigilance and to strengthen the alliance with all progressive forces in the world, which are led by the countries of the socialist community.

U.S., ISRAEL SHOW CONCERN OVER EGYPT'S ISOLATION

LD162138 Moscow TASS in English 2009 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] New York, May 16, TASS--The (?vigorous) condemnation by the Arab world of the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal and the Arabs' practical measures against the As-Sadat regime obviously caught unaware both the immediate participants in the deal, and its chief inspirer the United States. Even the American press has to admit this.

The New York TIMES notes today that the most sensitive blow for As-Sadat was ending Saudi Arabia's (?aid to) Egypt and, therefore, the new aid from the United States only replaces, rather than supplements the contribution of Saudi Arabia. The paper points out that the United States hope to create a large conservative grouping made up of Israel, Egypt, Iran, Iran, [as received] Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf states and the U.S. itself. However this grouping has now been reduced to the three participants of the Camp David meeting.

The Arabs' response to the deal made behind their backs strongly worries Israeli ruling circles too. At a meeting with the publisher of the New York TIMES, Arthur Sulzberger, Begin stated that he and his government are concerned by As-Sadat's isolation in the Arab world and the Arab countries' pressure on (?Egypt) and would like therefore to give the Egyptian president all possible assistance.

In this connection the paper recalls that during his recent visit to the U.S. Begin urged American business circles to make investments in Egypt. However, the New York TIMES stressed, when talking to Sulzberger, Begin made it clear that the Israeli wish to "help" [word indistinct] by no means signifies a change in Tel Aviv's stand on the Palestine question or agreement to the creation of an independent Palestine state.

SYRIAN, WFTU, SOVIET DELEGATES SPEAK AT DAMASCUS CONFERENCE

LD161546 Moscow TASS in English 1239 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, May 16, TASS--The Syrian and Palestinian peoples have been waging the joint struggle against the Israeli aggression over many years. Their alliance strengthened further in the face of plots of the forces of imperialism and Zionism whose embodiment is the separate treaty between Egypt and Israel. This was stated at the International Trade Union Conference of Solidarity with the People of Palestine by speaker of the People's Council (parliament) of Syria Mahmud Hadid. He stressed that Syria will continue exerting efforts to achieve a just settlement of the Middle East crisis.

American-style peace on Israeli terms, this is how the separate deal between the Egyptian regime and Tel Aviv was assessed in a report of the International Trade Union Committee of Solidarity with the People of Palestine which was delivered by General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions Enrique Pastorino. The traitorous policy conducted by As-Sadat damages the Arab liberation movement, says the report.

Taking advantage of the capitulatory actions of the Egyptian leadership and encouraging Israel's expansionist policy, the United States is striving to consolidate its positions in the Middle East, says the report. The tripartite collusion between As-Sadat, Tel Aviv and Washington has the aim of depriving the Palestinian people of the right to exist, of keeping true friend of Arabs, the Soviet Union, apart from the process of the Middle East settlement.

Speaking at the meeting, the head of the Soviet delegation, secretary of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions Sergey Kozlov confirmed the strong solidarity of the Soviet working people with the constant struggle of Arab peoples to end the Israeli aggression and to liquidate its consequences. To achieve the all-embracing settlement in the region.

TASS CITES JORDANIAN ENVOY'S REMARKS ON USSR VISIT

LD170158 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Amman, May 16, TASS--Hasan Ibrahim, Jordanian minister of state for foreign affairs, special envoy of King Husayn, in an interview with the Jordanian news agency expressed deep satisfaction with his talks in Moscow. "Considered during the talks," he said, "were all the details which have a bearing on the Middle East problem and the main components of an all-embracing settlement in the Middle East, in which all the sides concerned should take part." The Jordanian minister gave a high appraisal of the Soviet Union's stand on the question of ways for settling the crisis in the Middle East. This stand, he said, envisages complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and ensurance of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine including their right to self determination and the establishment of a state of their own. This stand is based on the U.N. resolutions the implementation of which the Soviet Union comes out for. The talks in Moscow, Hasan Ibrahim emphasized, were positive not only with regard to prospects for the establishment of peace in the region but also in the sphere of strengthening and development of Jordanian-Soviet relations.

WEST BANK MAYOR IN MINSK, LAUDS SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

LD162142 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Minsk, May 16, TASS--"We are grateful to the Soviet Union which consistently defends the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine". This has been stated to a TASS correspondent in Minsk (Belorussia) by Mayor of Ramallah Karim Khalaf. He leads a delegation of representatives of the Palestinian public of the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the River Jordan, who are now in that city. Karim Khalaf expressed confidence that the people of Palestine, who are backed by the socialist countries, with the Soviet Union at the head, by the progressive Arab states and all peaceloving forces of the planet, will uphold its right to have an independent Palestinian state, will exert every effort to see to it that a long-cherished and fair peace should come to the Middle East. The Palestinian delegation during the stay in Belorussia had meetings with workers, peasants, intellectuals, familiarised themselves with their life. The delegation left for Moscow today.

EGYPTIAN LEFT PARTY ISSUES ELECTION PLATFORM STATEMENT

LD161056 Moscow TASS in English 2200 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, May 15, TASS--Despite represssions and terror from the authorities, the National Progressive (Left) Party of Egypt will consistently and steadily uphold the fundamental interests of the working masses, will wage a resolute struggle for a really free, democratic and independent Egypt. This is said in a statement of the National Progressive (Left) Party of Egypt, which has been distributed here. The statement sets forth the party's political platform in connection with the elections to the supreme legislative body of the country--the People's Assembly scheduled to be held early next June.

The exercise of full and unconditional sovereignty of Egypt over every inch of its territory, support to the just struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for formation of their own independent state on their native land, expansion of cooperation with the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arabs--the Palestine Liberation Organisation--are the left party's objectives in its activities, the document stresses. The (?candidates of) the National Progressive Party advocate stronger solidarity with all the peoples fighting against colonialism, imperialism and Zionism, for freedom and socialism.

The Left Party is fully determined to work towards the establishment in Egypt of a really democratic system, elimination of the authorities' control over the (?party) activities, the guarantee of freedom of the party press, the abrogation of all laws which infringe upon the rights and liberties of Egyptian citizens.

The NPP candidates undertake to wage struggle against growing prices and inflation, for improvement of the life of the poor strata of the working people, for the right of the workers to participate in the management of enterprises, for unity of trade union movement. The party will continue to advocate revision of the so-called "open door" policy, against the sway of foreign monopolies and local parasitic bourgeoisie.

The National Progressive Party called upon all citizens of Egypt in the course of the coming elections to honestly express their opinion, notwithstanding the atmosphere of suppression of democratic rights and liberties and domination of police which cuts short any manifestation of opposition to the existing regime.

SKACHKOV HOLDS ANOTHER MEETING WITH IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER

LD161554 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, May 16, TASS--Semen Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who is currently in Iran, had one more meeting today with Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of Iran. Matters aimed at further developing Soviet-Iranian economic cooperation were discussed during the meeting.

IRANIAN OFFICIAL CALLS FOR NATIONALIZATION, KURDS' AUTONOMY

LD161320 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, May 16, TASS--Nationalisation of Western monopolies must become a priority task of the Iranian revolution, said religious and political leader of Iranian Kordestan Ayatollah Hosseyni. Touching upon the recent clashes in Sanandaj, Naqadeh and Dezh Shahpur, Hosseyni stressed that they were inspired by the reactionaries trying to hamper the revolutionary process. Ayatollah Hosseyni declared for the granting of autonomy to the Kurdish population in the framework of the united Iranian state.

IMAM OF ADEN MOSQUE SEES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN USSR

LD161730 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hakim, the imam of the Mosque of Aden, is on a visit to the USSR at the invitation of the religious administration of Central Asia and Kazakhstan. He attended the ceremonial session held in the headquarters of the imam of the Mosque of Moscow on the occasion of preparations for celebrating the advent of the 15th Hegira century by the muftis of the four religious administrations of the Muslims of the Soviet Union as well as kadis and other imams of mosques and foreign guests. We have asked Al-Hakim to give his impressions of his meetings with Soviet Muslims:

[Al-Hakim--begin recording] I have felt and seen that everything circulated and published by the imperialists, colonialists and malicious reactionaries about freedom of religion in the Soviet Union not being guaranteed or assured is refuted by reality. The mosques of Muslims are full of praying people. This clearly and categorically proves that the Soviet Government permits freedom of religion and that all religious believers undertake their religious practices in full freedom. All of what is circulated and published by the imperialists, colonialists and malicious reactionaries about Marxist communist doctrine being imposed on all Muslims here is a blatant lie, and God says in the Koran: May God's curse fall on liars.

MOSCOW CONFERENCE OF USSR-PDRY FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

LD162131 Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--It is with deep sympathy and sincere friendship that Soviet people follow the socio-economic transformations in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. They note with satisfaction that [words indistinct] truly friendly cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other fields has formed between the two countries, it was stated by Aleksandr Sukharev, chairman of the board of the USSR-PDRY Friendship Society. He delivered a report today at a conference of the society that summed up the results of its activities during the past five years. Sukharev stressed that the Soviet public attaches much importance to the development of cooperation with the public of Democratic Yemen. He spoke highly, in particular, of such a form of work as the holding of friendship days in the USSR and the PDRY. The PDRY Ambassador in the USSR 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali said at the conference that his government and people are proud of the friendship with the Soviet Union which is based on a sound foundation and mutual respect. My people, the ambassador said, is grateful for the internationalist solidarity and support that the USSR has given and is giving to my country at all stages, in the building up of the new life and in the defence of revolutionary gains. The new board of the society will be headed again by Aleksandr Sukharev, first deputy minister of justice of the USSR.

IRAQI-CEMA COOPERATION MEETING OPENS IN BAGHDAD

LD151218 Moscow TASS in English 1131 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, May 15, TASS--The third session of the Foreign Trade Subcommittee of the Joint Commission of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) and the Iraqi Republic has opened here. The session will discuss the prospects for the development of commercial relations between Iraq and the CMEA members and also questions of cooperation between them in the sphere of transport.

FRG'S OTRAG CONTINUES MISSILE TESTING IN ZAIRE

LD091350 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 9 May 79 LD

["They on the Rhine Dream of Strategic Missiles"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 9, TASS--The Zaire Government has proposed the West German Orbital Transport und Raketen AG Company (OTRAG) to terminate missile tests in the Shaba Province. Commenting on the decision, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA points out that the test range was established by the OTRAG in 1976 after the directorate of the firm managed to conclude with the Zaire authorities an agreement in accordance with which the West German company has had a territory of 100,000 square kilometres at its disposal. Tested at the range were carrier rockets which, according to OTRAG President Lutz Kaiser, can also deliver "hydrogen bombs".

A number of international treaties are known to have prohibited the FRG to be engaged in the development and production of strategic missiles. But the designers of the Orbital Transport und Raketen are working exactly at development of such missiles. By the way, many of these designers yet at the time of the fascist dictatorship in Germany took part in the development of the FAU-1 and FAU-2 missiles which Hitlerites fired at British and Dutch towns.

As is clear from statements of the company officials, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes, since the trials in Shaba have been prohibited, the firm plans the next series of tests in the sea. Besides negotiations are under way with five countries at a time on new ground test ranges for OTRAG. Some people on the shores of the Rhine openly declare the desire to have their own "Euro-strategic" weapon. The OTRAG missiles are the first stage to the development of such a weapon. The Orbital Transport und Raketen has influential supporters also at the headquarters of the NATO secret services. As was noted by the American press, OTRAG's "godfathers" are the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States and the West German intelligence service BND. For their assistance the "godfathers" demanded relevant services from the Lutz Kaiser firm. Making flights from Shaba to Munich, OTRAG planes cross a good half of the African Continent and collect information, which it is customary to call espionage information.

SWAPO'S NUJOMA REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE S. AFRICAN 'PUPPETS'

LD161528 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Luanda, May 16, TASS--At a press conference here, Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) said the Namibian people will never agree to the neocolonialist solution to the problem of Namibia. Our people, he emphasized, will never recognize the Republic of South Africa's puppets in Namibia. We shall carry on and intensify the armed struggle right up to complete liberation from the yoke of racist occupation and to the gaining of the country's genuine independence. The SWAPO president expressed a deep gratitude to the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community which render invariable support to the patriots of Namibia.

CONGO PRESIDENT ADDRESSES LABOR PARTY POLITBURO MEETING

LD161326 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Brazzaville, May 16, TASS--A meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labour Party was held here.

Taking part in the meeting were also members of the government, heads of public organizations of the People's Republic of the Congo. The meeting discussed the measures to improve the activity of a number of enterprises of the state sector in industry and to develop the country's agriculture.

Chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labour Party, President of the Republic Denis Sassou-Nguesso addressed the meeting. He stressed that to achieve further advance of the Congolese revolution and to implement the decisions of the third extraordinary congress of the party, it is necessary to enhance the responsibility of every executive, to perfect the style of work of the entire state and administrative apparatus.

Denis Sassou-Nguesso touched upon the work of organizations and enterprises dealing with questions of improving the housing conditions of the working people of the People's Republic of the Congo. A range of measures for widening housing construction was approved on his proposal. 1,200 million African francs were allocated for the purpose.

It was also decided to allocate 2,326 million African francs for the development of livestock breeding. Three major livestock breeding firms will be set up in different areas of the country. 14 thousand hectares of lands are planned to be developed to increase the output of farm products, and consequently, to cut the expenditures for importing food products.

SEMINAR ON AFRICAN AGRICULTURE OPENS IN ADDIS ABABA

LD161238 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 16, TASS--A seminar on the development of agriculture in the African Continent opened in the capital of Ethiopia. It is being held by the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa and the All-Africa Association for the Development of Agricultural Sciences.

The increasing gap in the production of food and the growth of population in the continent is one of the most acute problems the countries of the continent encounter now, Geremew Debele, Ethiopian minister of agriculture and settlements, emphasized in his speech. He called on all African states and international organizations to combine efforts for a practical solution of the task to boost agricultural production and to provide the peoples of the continent with food on the basis of up-to-date technology and advanced farming techniques.

W. AFRICAN BANKER COMMENTS ON WEST'S ECONOMIC CRISIS

LD161458 Moscow TASS in English 0854 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Dakar, May 16, TASS--The consequences of the monetary and economic crisis which the capitalist world is experiencing bear heavily on the developing countries of Africa connected with the West by the system of economic and trade agreements. This was stated in Abidjan by Abdoulaye Fadiga, governor of the Central Bank of West African States. He emphasized that the slump in business activity in the West leads to a reduction in the export of African products, in currency revenue, to inflation and shortage of food.

CUBAN PEASANTS CELEBRATE LAND REFORM ANNIVERSARY

LD151310 Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Havana, May 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Voropayev reports: The Cuban peasants are getting ready to observe festively the 20th anniversary of the land reform law signed on May 17th 1959. This law which put an end to latifundism in Cuban agriculture and transferred the land to those who work it, translated into reality the age-old dream of the Cuban peasantry and laid a solid foundation for radical reforms in the countryside. The life of Cuban peasants has changed beyond recognition during the twenty years that have elapsed since then. The level of farm mechanization is growing yearly. Scientific and technical achievements are being introduced in production on an ever broader scale. New detachments of highly skilled specialists annually come to work in agriculture. All this resulted in the steady growth of the production of meat, milk, fruits, vegetables and other farm crops. The farm cooperative movement is assuming ever broader scope in Cuba. At the present time there are approximately 400 successfully operating cooperatives in the country. Tremendous changes have taken place in the life of the Cuban countryside. Modern comfortable dwelling houses are replacing the huts built of boards and palm leaves. Many villages now have tap supply, electricity and television. The number of schools and other educational establishments, kindergartens and polyclinics is growing steadily. Motor-roads now link the villages that were formerly cut off from the rest of the world with the country's administrative and cultural centres. In reply to the concern displayed by the party and the government, the Cuban farmers do not stint efforts to fulfil successfully the tasks of socialist construction set before them by the First Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. The twenty years that have elapsed since the signing of the land reform law have shown convincingly that the Cuban peasantry, closely linked as it is with working class and guided by the Communist Party is confidently advancing along the road of building socialism.

SOVIET-MEXICAN COOPERATION PROGRAM SIGNED IN MOSCOW

LD111832 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--A programme of exchanges in the field of culture, education and social sciences between the USSR and Mexico in 1979-1980 was signed here today by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Igor Zemskov and member of the Collegium of Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Luis de La Hidalga. The programme provides for exchanges of scientists, educationalists, people prominent in culture and art. Cooperation will also be expanded between workers in cinematography, radio and television.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES CREDENTIALS OF ECUADOR'S AMBASSADOR

LD161551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 79 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 11 May Francisco Urbina Ortiz, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ecuador, presented his credentials in the Kremlin to V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches between V.V. Kuznetsov and Francisco Urbina Ortiz friendly talks took place. M.P. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Ya.A. Malik, USSR deputy foreign minister, participated in them.

TASHKENT TRIAL OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS PROVED GUILT

LD161555 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[V. Kassis and M. Mikhaylov report: "What Was Being Done in the 'Apostle's' Bunker"]

[Text] Tashkent-Moscow--A while ago the Western propaganda organs began to display heightened interest in one V. Shelkov. Various radio voices, receiving so-called information from A. Sakharov, who was hanging around in Tashkent when the trial of Shelkov and company was being held, are now trying to turn Shelkov and his accomplices into "great martyrs" and "victims of the persecution of religion and believers in the USSR."

Yes, a trial did indeed take place in Tashkent recently and we attended it. The case was heard openly. In the dock were V. Shelkov, A. Spalin, I. Lepshin, S. Maslov and S. Furlet. It emerged in the course of the investigation and court proceedings that under V. Shelkov's leadership vigorous hostile activity had been conducted for a long time and, contrary to the assertions of Western propaganda, religion was used only as a cover.

What happened? Let us turn to the documents produced by the preliminary investigation and confirmed by the entire course of the trial.

Last March a Tashkent inhabitant--M., a Russian and a believer--appealed to the competent organs. The gist of his complaint was that he, a member of the Church of the Seventh-Day Adventists, or to be more precise a group of Reformist-Adventists which had split from it in the past, "can no longer tolerate the deeds of certain fanatical leaders of the Reformist-Adventists who are disseminating materials filled with black hatred and slander against the socialist motherland and inciting young men of draft age to avoid military service."

M. wrote further: "There is no question of any faith here. There are sordid politics and murky intrigues everywhere. And I am a believer. That is why I do not want to tolerate any further those who day and night implant evil in us, the true supporters of the church, who sow malice, who incite us to oppose the law, while engaging at the same time in a constant and avid struggle for power and the leadership of the church. That is why I have taken the firm decision to tell you about the hostile deeds of the preacher Shelkov and his subservient brothers: A. Spalin who is counted as 'chairman of the Literary Committee' and I. Lepshin--a man without settled employment who is Shelkov's son-in-law and is regarded as his heir.... They are all in an illegal situation, hiding from the eyes of outsiders...."

This letter became the key to another episode that occurred far from Tashkent--in Pyatigorsk. One day I. Orekhov, driver of a Zil-130 truck, and F. Solodovnichenko, a mechanic at the city motor transport establishment, picked up on Pervomayskaya Street a bundle that was found to contain printed brochures with slanderous contents signed by V. Shelkov. Thus the long thread of the criminal activity of Shelkov and his subordinates began to be unwound.

...Now let us enter the Tashkentskaya Oblast courtroom. The indictment in criminal case No 17,012 is read out. The testimonies from the accused are heard, the witnesses are questioned, the report findings are read, and the speeches of the prosecutor and defense attorney are delivered.

However Shelkov, Spalin, Lepshin and Furlet dodged the issue, and their actions discrediting the Soviet state and social system appeared in all their loathsomeness. And every new fact exposing the criminals angered those present in the courtroom.

For many years Shelkov stayed in his bunker and lived illegally off false documents.

A house was once acquired in a Tashkent street in the name of Shelkov's daughter, D.V. Lepshina. An impenetrable fence was erected around it. The house had six rooms, was extremely comfortably furnished, and had all sorts of outbuildings and hiding places. Under cover of night Shelkov moved into this house soon after it had been bought and turned it into his fortress and secret apartment. S. Maslov became his agent and messenger.

Not suffering from excessive modesty, Shelkov declared himself to be a senior apostle, "God's deputy on earth." He was not short of funds since his entire flock paid him quit rent--the so-called "tithe" of even "twenty" [dvadtsatina]--10 or 20 percent of their entire wages. The entire course of the legal investigation proved that these funds, allegedly earmarked for "aid to believers" and religious affairs, went to maintain Shelkov, Spalin and others who did not work anywhere. It was this money which was used to print and distribute all sorts of riot-inciting [pogromnaya] output.

The Reformist-Adventists acquired a number of secret apartments both in Tashkent and in other cities, such as Pyatigorsk and various places in the Transcaucasus and Central Asia.

Now a brief word about the long history of V. Shelkov--the son of a kulak who had eight hired hands. Shelkov imbibed hatred for everything Soviet virtually with his mother's milk. Under cover of the reactionary splinter trend of Adventism he embarked on the path of fighting Soviet power back in the thirties. He urged believers not to recognize this power, to oppose all its measures. To back up his antistate "sermons" Shelkov referred to the religious teaching he "professed," seeking in religious books "explanations" and "interpretations" which suited him.

Shelkov was exposed at that time and arrested. But he had scarcely returned from prison when he created a new underground center for the reformist-Adventists sect. It was joined, in addition to Shelkov, by P. Manzhura and G. Ostvald.

The war against fascism began. Shelkov and his associates did not restrict themselves to propaganda urging refusal to serve in the Soviet Army. On Soviet territory occupied by the Hitlerites they became active collaborators with the fascists. That was how Shelkov acted, being at that time in Pyatigorsk; Manzhura joined the German fascist intelligence under the nickname "Old Man". They subordinated all the activity of the Reformist-Adventists to the villainous aims of the occupiers.

Naturally these "servants of God" count not keep secret their ties with the fascists and they were convicted after the war.

But in October 1954 Shelkov returned from his second prison term and on this occasion too remained true to himself. He immediately headed again the illegal organization of Reformist-Adventists, which was carefully hidden. It was established by an investigation in 1958 that Shelkov's illegal "organization," while ostensibly a religious one, is at the same time pursuing aims hostile to the Soviet socialist system. [paragraph continues]

Disobedience to the laws of the Soviet state, propaganda urging the refusal of universal military service, wresting Soviet citizens from participation in the country's socio-political and cultural life, educating children and young people in an anti-Soviet spirit, expanding the organization by recruiting new people. These actions are being carried out both by reading sermons at illegal assemblies and by preparing and distributing manuscripts and typewritten brochures...."

From the numerous protocols of the interrogations which now, in the course of Shelkov's four convictions, have amounted to many volumes, it is clear that Shelkov predicted the inexorable "death of the USSR as a result of World War III." Shelkov acquired fake documents in the name of Petr Andreyevich Pavlov. In Tashkent we were told how Shelkov, avoiding deserved punishment, organized, at the expense of these same believers...his own funeral. Here he endeavored to insure that as many people as possible knew about it. Of course, it was an empty coffin that was consigned to the grave....

The hiding places of the homes of Shelkov and his accomplices contained publications calling for the overthrow of the existing system and cooperation with "loyal friends" abroad.

In the past few years Shelkov has acquired the nickname "Grandad." Having created an illegal underground printing house--the "True Witness" [vernyy svidetel] publishing house--he published a number of books and brochures discrediting our social system, and slandered the Soviet state in the sphere of religion, education, civil liberties and the fulfillment of international agreements. For Shelkov religion served only as a cover for his crimes. He exploited the religious feelings of believers although he himself did not believe in anything. Shelkov had one idol--money, profit, an incessant passion for wealth; he did not stop at any criminal methods, even the most sordid, to acquire this wealth. A curious detail: In his "sermons" Shelkov announced: "We must not read, listen to or say anything which is forbidden by God's instructions. Radios and television sets turn believers' homes into theaters and other places unseemly for believers.... No worldly conversations. No buying of newspapers."

But for all this Shelkov himself did not stop listening to Western radio voices. Moreover, hundreds of tape cassettes, with recordings of the Voice of America, Deutsche Welle, Radio Liberty and others and the most modern foreign recording instruments and radio receivers were found in his Tashkent lair and brought in as evidence.

When Shelkov's house was searched a list of 3-percent loan bonds totalling R268,000 and over R5,000 in ready cash were found. A unique bunker in which the owner stayed was equipped knowledgeably. It could only be entered by locating in the door threshold a secret button opening a lock hidden under the floorboards. Then you had to descend a staircase to the basement, walk several meters through a dark passage, again find a cover in the wooden floor, and climb into a tiny little chamber without windows or electricity measuring no more than 1.5 square meters.

That is not all. Before entering "Grandad's" "presence," the ordinary believer had to undergo four checks--four stages which constituted a unique sifting device or sieve. But even if someone was received by him then, having entered as, say, an "engineer" according to his work record book, he might emerge as a "fitter" with a different work record book, or vice versa. If someone did not have secondary education--that was also no problem as Shelkov could for a certain recompense not only raise their educational qualifications but also issue a fake passport with an official stamp and register them illegally.

Shelkov's storerooms were literally bursting with sacks of sugar, groats, canned goods, and 10-year old boxes of matches.

And one more notable episode....His printing press broke down on one occasion. Shelkov's messengers searched cities and villages and finally found one...in Nalchik. They found a criminal with four convictions who agreed to procure a new press. And he did procure one. It must be said that was not the only press. Shelkov's criminal group also had other printing and duplicating machines.

One of Shelkov's active assistants was A. Spalin, who headed the so-called "Literary Committee" and edited Shelkov's "works." For 20 years Spalin has not worked anywhere and has been in an illegal position. He subsists by means of the "salary" given to him by Shelkov from the subscriptions.

I. Lepshin, the husband of one of Shelkov's daughters, also has committed many crimes. As for a second son-in-law--O. Tsvetkov--a barbaric reprisal was carried out against him and his wife--"Grandad's" eldest daughter--by Shelkov's men. The point is that Tsvetkov once opposed his father-in-law's actions publicly, exposed his false teaching and proved that he was no "deputy of God" but a criminal and a thief.

And finally--Sofya Furlet. When her home was searched chests of slanderous literature, a book-binding machine, and "works" by Shelkov's men prepared for inclusion in a little brochure were found in specially equipped hiding places.

And one more thing we brought from the courtroom. Shelkov and company were henchmen of the Western psychological warfare centers acting under cover of phony concern for "faith and religion." It has become known that Shalkov's agents were in constant contact with several foreign journalists in Moscow. One R. Galetskiy was used to this end. He maintained close contacts with convicted anti-Soviets like Orlov and supporters of the Reformist Adventists calling themselves "preachers of the Adventist Church." He does not work anywhere and has abandoned his family. And all the "publications" from Shelkov's kitchen began to be passed on to him. He in turn handed them to certain Western journalists, in particular former New York TIMES correspondent Christopher Wren, who was very fond of jogging round Moscow early in the morning, calling it "physical limbering up" but in fact using these jogging sessions to contact various riffraff. Wren himself is closely linked with the CIA. Galetskiy also supplied the BBC's Moscow correspondent Kevin Ruane (he is still working in the Soviet Union) with slanderous information about the position of believers in the USSR and so forth. It was precisely through Galetskiy that the letters prepared by Shelkov publicizing all sorts of renegades and appeals not to enter into any agreements with the Soviet Union were sent out to the West.

And so our story has come to an end. Shelkov and his accomplices had to leave their secret bunkers and occupy places more suitable for them. Just retribution has overtaken the wild fanatic and inveterate criminal Shelkov as well as Spalin, Lepshin and Furlet. The court sentenced them to various terms of imprisonment and was released from custody immediately after the sentence was passed.

In conclusion, we would like to ask those who supported so vociferously and continue to be concerned for totally exposed criminals: Who are you pleading for, gentlemen?! With what riffraff are you keeping company?

CENTRAL ASIAN MUFTI ON PREPARATIONS FOR HEGIRA JUBILEE

LD142352 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 14 May 79 LD

[Text] In September 1980 the Muslims will be celebrating 1,400 years of the Hegira. In this regard a meeting of representatives of the Muslim faith took place with the participation of representatives of the four Muslim administrations in the USSR and Qadis and Imams of many mosques in various parts of the country, and also foreign guests. Soviet and foreign journalists also attended.

Chairman of the Muslims' spiritual administration of Central Asia and Kazakhstan Mufti Ziya Ut-Din Babakhanov addressed the meeting at Moscow mosque: [Bagakhanov--begin recording] In the name of God, the all-merciful, the all compassionate. Praise be to God. We Muslims are now living in good health and prosperity. [end recording]

Ziya Ut-Din Babakhanov greets all; it is the Islamic traditional greetings. He says: The Soviet Muslims are entering the 15th century of Islam, and they are enjoying spiritual equality with other religions. All Soviet citizens, including the Muslims, are free to profess their religion. Soviet Muslims gather in mosques to pray to God, who has taught people to be wise and work for peace.

Ziya Ut-Din Babakhanov added: We approve the policy of the Soviet state, which seeks to consolidate peace among the peoples and to promote friendly relations with all the countries of the world.

He continues: In preparation for the jubilee it has been decided to organize an exhibition on Muslims in the Soviet Union; a book "Islam and the Muslims in the Soviet Union" will also be published; and there will be some records of readings of some verses in the holy Koran. There will be three special issues of our magazine THE MUSLIMS OF THE SOVIET UNION. This year in Dushanbe we will organize a seminar on the participation of Soviet Muslims in the development of Islamic thought and in the cause of peace and social progress. Next year an Islamic conference entitled "The New Century Must Be a Century of Peace and International Friendship" will be held in Tashkent. We expect to meet in Dushanbe and Tashkent our brothers in the faith from many countries, with whom we have close ties.

Participants in the meeting of the representatives of the Soviet Muslim bodies issued a statement saying that: Our spiritual conscience calls upon us to struggle for the peoples' social progress and for the triumph of peace on earth and for just international relations. At the end of his speech Mufti Ziya Ut-Din Babakhanov invited those present to join in the prayers.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL ON PROSPECTS FOR SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT

LD170632 Moscow TASS in English 2218 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--Putting to use the economic resources of Siberia and the Far East is a major strategic trend in the USSR's economic development. It is precisely these areas that will account in the future for the bulk of the increase in output of electricity, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, oil and natural gas, coal and pulp. A statement to this effect was made at a press-conference in Moscow today by Gennadiy Ushcherbov, a leading official of the USSR's State Planning Committee. Placing stake on the development of vast expanses beyond the Urals is an objective necessity, Ushcherbov pointed out. The country's west, which accounts for three quarters of industrial output, has almost exhausted its natural resources. At the same time, Siberia and the Far East have 80 per cent of the Soviet coal reserves, 70 per cent of forests and natural gas resources, 68 per cent of hydropower resources, much oil and ore. We are practically only starting the development of these resources, Ushcherbov said.

As Leonid Brezhnev pointed out during his tour of Siberia and the Far East, the development of local economy shall proceed along the way of creating big territorial-production complexes. The first of them, the Urals-Kuznetsk was formed as far back in the thirties, in the course of the First Soviet Five-Year Plan period. The creation of the Angar-Yenissey complex in Siberia started in the fifties. The Krasnoyarsk (five million kilowatt) and other power plants using the energy of the two great rivers have stimulated the creation of the aluminium, petrochemical, pulp and paper and other energy intensive industries.

A fuel and energy-complex has been formed in Western Siberia on the basis of oil and gas deposits. The oil fields are rapidly developing and will yield 330 million tons of the raw material by the end of the current five year plan period. There is a prospect of creating a series of industrial complexes in the zone of 3,000 kilometre long Baykal-Amur Railway, Ushcherbov noted. Almost all the raw material resources used in national economy have been struck there.

VOLGA SYSTEM FLASH FLOOD HIGHER THAN NORMAL THIS SPRING

LD161535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 79 p 6 LD

[Correspondent N. Mironov report under rubric "We Report the Details": "Against the Flash Flood"]

[Text] Kuybyshevskaya Oblast--The Hydrometeorological Service warned back in winter that a higher flash flood than usual was expected on the Volga this spring. However, no one could have expected what occurred at the end of April and in the first days of May. The weather played a malicious trick. Snow still lay in Kuybyshev's streets as of 28 April. But on 5 May the birch trees broke into leaf. In the space of 24 hours the temperature leaped from 4-5 degrees to 25-28 degrees. This caused a sudden thawing of the snow.

The first to assert themselves were small rivers which you will not find on every map: The Chapayevka, Bolshoy Kinel, Sok, Cheremshan, Shura and Sviyaga. They suddenly became a formidable force which destroyed everything in its path. In 24 hours, from 26 to 27 April, those rivers rose by 3-4 and, in places, 6 meters.

Flood commissions were urgently set up in Kuybyshevskaya, Ulyanovskaya and other oblasts in the Volga Region. The Hydrometeorological Service established communication with riverside rayons thousands of kilometers away--from the rivers of the Urals to Astrakhan. Yu. T. Zheltikov, chief of the service's Volga administration, said:

"On 10 May the flow of water into Kuybyshev Reservoir stood at approximately 52,000 cubic meters a second. But only 40,000 cubic meters were being discharged over the dam of the Volga GES. A similar picture was to be seen at all the dams of the Kama and Volga cascades. The water level in the Volga near Kuybyshev rose to 34.6 meters--6 meters higher than normal. Similar flooding occurred only in 1929, when the water rose to 36.7 meters. But at the time there were no dams on the Volga. Today, the rampaging elements have been bridled by man's hands. Now we can distribute the pressure of spring floodwaters throughout thousands of kilometers. Let us suppose a difficult situation arises near Astrakhan--then at Astrakhan's request the Saratov GES discharges less water than is entering the reservoir."

"We have assigned people, equipment and construction organizations to every dam," O.I. Kovalev, deputy chairman of Kuybyshevskiy Oblispolkom, said. "On the eve we managed to discharge floodwaters over the dams of small rivers and ponds. Day and night bulldozers are building up dikes in the region of the Samarskaya settlement [sloboda] and the 'Volgar' Sovkhoz and in other places."

In Ulyanovskaya Oblast's Veshkaymskiy Rayon the flash flood damaged a power transmission line, and a repair team was sent there urgently by helicopter. On the Vavilov Kolkhoz and the "Zalesnyy" Sovkhoz in Inzenskiy Rayon the flood cut off farms. Workers were taken to them in boats. A 50-meter section was under water on the road from Cherdakly to Staraya Mayna. It took only a few hours to reopen to traffic.

The flash flood on small rivers in the middle course of the Volga has now ended. However, the level of the Ural is continuing to rise. People on its banks are prepared for any surprises that the elements might present.

BRIEFS

COMPLYING WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION--The ships of the Sovetskaya Ukraina Antarctic whaling flotilla docked in Odessa on 15 May. At a meeting in the port the crews reported the successful fulfillment of the task set for the trip and of the 4-year plan of the 5-year period. During the operations that lasted several months, the Soviet crews whaled in strict compliance with the rules of the international convention. Having made thrifty use of the valuable raw material, they expanded the assortment of foodstuff production and improved its quality. The crews of the ships Besstrashnyy, Bravyy and Dobryy won in socialist competitions. [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 15 May 79 AU]

MAGADAN TELEPHONE FACILITIES--Magadan residents can now communicate by telephone with all rayon capitals in Kolyma as well as with Khabarovsk, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, Yakutsk and Moscow by using facilities provided by automatic long distance exchanges. Dial telephone facilities are available at the city long distance exchange, bus stations and hotels in rayons. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0755 GMT 10 May 79 OW]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 15-16 MAY

LD170710 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0200 GMT on 15 May reports that in Kurganskaya Oblast mass sowing of spring wheat begins today. Over 100,000 hectares have been allocated to local high-yield varieties for the first time. A specialized association has been formed in the oblast to produce superior seeds of spring wheat of local selection whose aim is to provide all the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the oblast with high-quality seeds in the next few years.

At 0830 GMT the radio reports that Kazakhstan's virgin land oblasts began sowing today. Approximately 16 million hectares are to be sown with grain--12 million hectares of which are to be sown with wheat--predominantly hard and durum varieties.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that sowing of early grain crops has been completed in Ryazanskaya Oblast. They have been sown on 1 million hectares. This year preference has been given to new strands of wheat--Moskovskaya-35--and barley--Dvora. Sowing machines have gone out on the sugar-beet plantations. Mass sowing of spring crops has begun in Kemerovskaya Oblast.

At 0000 GMT on 16 May the radio reports that Omskaya Oblast farmers have begun the sowing of spring crops. Anti-erosion technology is being widely utilized. Thanks to this plants will withstand drought. Grain farmers are struggling to achieve an average of 17-18 quintals per hectare.

At 0100 GMT Aleksandr Ruvinskiy reports on the sowing progress in the east of the country: The sowing of spring wheat is beginning with a very valuable durum strain used in the wheat industry. Over 40 million hectares are to be sown in Siberia, the Urals and Kazakhstan. In Kazakhstan today and tomorrow, the 1.5 million hectare per 24 hours target is being reached.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that grain farmers of Novosibirskaya Oblast have begun sowing wheat. The bad weather has delayed the beginning of the sowing for more than a week, so intensive work has to be done. Grain and inter-row crops [propashnye kultury] have to be sown on 3 million hectares in 80 days.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that selective cutting of winter wheat and barley started in southern Turkmenistan today. The republic aims at bringing in a grain crop of more than 160,000 tons this year, considerably more than last year.

At 1430 GMT the radio reports that nine-tenths of the spring sowing area has been completed in the Ukraine; the sowing of corn, buckwheat and millet, and the planting of potatoes is now being completed.

RATE OF SPRING SOWING INCREASES SHARPLY IN SEVERAL REPUBLICS

LD162200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] About 71 million hectares have been sown with various crops on the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes by mid-May. More than one-third of this area was sown during the past week. Data received today from the USSR Central Statistical Administration show that the rate of work has risen sharply.

The machine operators are simultaneously sowing early and late crops on a considerable area of the country. The farmers are engaged in very strenuous work.

Specialists believe the present pace of work will make it possible to complete the sowing campaign in optimum time. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes on the vast territory of our eastern areas, Siberia and Kazakhstan embarked on a mass sowing campaign this week. They are sowing the spring wheat crop. The sowing of sugar beets has been practically completed in the main areas. The Ukraine has sown its entire rice crop, sunflowers and fiber flax. The Far East has started work on the soya plantations. This work is also in progress in Georgia, Kazakhstan, and southern Russia.

RSFSR Spring Sowing

LD161203 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Summary] Some 36 million hectares have been sown with spring crops by mid-May in the RSFSR, according to a bulletin of the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration. Almost half this area was sown last week. In the central oblasts, sowing was delayed in April by cold weather; now it has been delayed further because the soil is too wet. In the coming days the rate of fieldwork will increase still further. Wheat sowing began today in many eastern oblasts where the area to be sown with wheat is over 15 million hectares.

Kazakh Virgin Lands

AU161245 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 15 May 79 AU

[Summary] "Farmers in the northern virgin land oblasts have begun mass grain sowing. Tens of thousands of machines, combined in amalgamated Ipatov complexes, have been engaged in the vast fields. More than 16 million hectares have to be sown with grain crops this year in the virgin lands, including about 13 million hectares of wheat, predominantly of strong and durum varieties."

Virgin land farmers have carefully prepared for the campaign. Anti-erosion drills are being applied everywhere. It is planned to apply mineral fertilizers on 3.5 million hectares. For this purpose, two-shift machine operations have been organized almost everywhere.

BRIEFS

KAZAKH ANIMAL PRODUCTION--The 4-month results of stockbreeding development in the Kazakh SSR have been summed up. The production of mutton and goat's meat on the hoof increased compared with the corresponding period last year by 1,920 tons. Pork has increased by nearly 1,500 tons, poultry by 3,500 tons, milk by 12,100 tons and eggs by 34,400 thousand [egg statistic as heard]. Stockbreeders in Gurysevskaya, Dzhambulskaya, Dzhezkazganskaya, Karagandinskaya, Taldy-Kurganskaya, Turgayskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts increased milk production against 1978 by 10-22 percent. In the 4 months Kazakhstan's livestock increased by 879,600 calves, 787,400 piglets, about 4.4 million lambs and kids, 73,900 foals and 1,300 little camels. The number of poultry has increased also. [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 11 May 79 AU]

PRIMORSKIY KRAY FAVORABLE WEATHER--Favorable weather has set in for increasing the rate of sowing in Primorskiy Kray. The majority of farms in the kray's southern and central rayons have completed the sowing of early grain crops and have stepped up the planting of potatoes, cabbages and other crops. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 2140 GMT 10 May 79 OW]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

USTINOV ORDER OF THE DAY FOR 9 MAY VICTORY DAY

LD161433 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 May 79 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of USSR Defense Minister 9 May 1979 Order of the Day No 115 for the 34th anniversary of the victory over German fascism]

[Text] Comrade soldiers and sailors, sergeants and chief petty officers!

Comrade ensigns and warrant officers!

Comrade officers, generals and admirals!

Comrade veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces and participants in the Gread Patriotic war!

Today our motherland, the fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind celebrate the 34th anniversary of the victory over German fascism.

Under the guidance of Lenin's party, the Soviet people and their valiant armed forces inflicted a crushing defeat on Hitlerite Germany, defended the socialist fatherland's freedom and independence, and carried out its great liberating mission. The historic victory in the Great Patriotic War was convincing proof of the viability and invincibility of the Soviet social and state system. It led to a weakening of the positions of world imperialism and reaction, created conditions conducive to the formation of the world socialist system, and helped bring about an upsurge in the workers and national liberation movements and the disintegration of imperialism's colonial system.

The working people of our country and the men of the army and navy celebrate Victory Day amid a general upsurge in political and labor activity. The 25th CPSU Congress decisions are being successfully implemented, the motherland's economic might is steadily growing, and the Soviet people's material prosperity and cultural standards are improving. The Soviet people are striving to achieve new successes in fulfilling the plan tasks for 1979 and for the 10th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

The Soviet state's Leninist foreign policy aimed at asserting the principles of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems is warmly supported by the Soviet people and all peace-loving forces throughout the world.

At the same time, reactionary imperialist circles are stubbornly opposing the process of relaxation of international tension and are spurring the arms race. In concert with them, China's ruling clique, which has terminated the treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual aid between the USSR and the PRC, is pursuing its adventurist policy of aggression, great power chauvinism and hegemonism.

Under these conditions the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Governemnt are taking the necessary steps to further strengthen the country's defense and are showing constant concern for increasing our armed forces' vigilance and combat readiness. Closely rallied around the Communist Party, its Leninist Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrad L. I. Brezhnev, the men of the army and navy are constantly improving their combat skills and in united formation with the men of the fraternal socialist countries's armies are vigilantly standing guard over the gains of socialism and the peoples's security.

I extend greetings and congratulations to the personnel and veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces and to all those who took part in the Great Patriotic War on the occasion of this victory festival.

To mark the 34th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany I order that:

Today, 9 May, at 2100 local time a 3-gun salute be fired in Hero-City Moscow, the capital of our motherland; in union republic capitals; in the Hero-Cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Sevastopol, Odessa, Novorossiysk, Kerch and Tula; in the Hero-Fortress of Brest; and in the cities of Murmansk, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk and Vladivostok.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell fighting for our motherland's freedom and independence!

Long live the heroic Soviet people and their valiant armed forces!

Long live the Communist Party of the Soviet Union--the inspiration and organizer of all our victories!

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense.

NEW FILM LAUDED FOR 'TELLING TRUTH' ABOUT WORLD WAR II

LD161243 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 79 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union K. Moskalenko, USSR deputy minister of defense: "A Chronicle of a Great Feat"]

[Excerpt] Heroic feats by the people is one of the most important themes in the keen ideological struggle at the present time. Bourgeois historians and propagandists are trying to misrepresent reality, to play down the part of the Soviet Union in the defeat of Hitlerite Germany, to "substantiate" the fortuitousness of this natural outcome and to reinterpret the result of World War II. Nor are Western moviemakers averse to engaging in such falsifications. Attempts are made in a number of films to persuade the audience that it was the allies' armies who won the war against fascism.

We give due credit to the fighting armies of our allies. In the struggle against fascism a great contribution was made by the resistance forces, Yugoslav partisans and the soldiers of Poland and Czechoslovakia, and in the final stage of the war by Romanian, Hungarian and Bulgarian units. But Hitlerite Germany's main forces were smashed by Soviet troops. The brunt of the war was borne by the Soviet people. Their armed forces won a hard and glorious victory and fulfilled their patriotic and international duty.

The scenes shown in "The Great Patriotic War" movie epic are a clarion call for vigilance toward the intrigues of aggressors and for all people of good will to struggle tirelessly for peace, an end to the arms race and for peaceful coexistence.

The new movie epic is a valuable contribution to the strengthening of trust and mutual understanding among peoples. The experience of the war years is convincing proof that different social systems do not present an obstacle to the pooling of efforts in the struggle for international security and to avert a nuclear catastrophe.

That is our party's consistent course, substantiated in the writings and speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. This wise policy is wholeheartedly supported by the men of the Soviet Armed Forces. Moreover, they understand that steady strengthening vigilance and combat readiness is the most important guarantee of preserving lasting peace and a warning to those who, having forgotten the lessons of history, contemplate plans for a new war. Equipped with the most up-to-date weapons and enriched with invaluable experience accumulated in extremely fierce encounters with the enemy and with their combat traditions, the Soviet Army and Navy are vigilantly keeping their honorable watch.

The movie epic "The Great Patriotic War" is a monumental cinematographic canvas. It has resurrected scenes from the war years and marshalled them with military precision. Once more the battle for peace on earth, democratic freedoms, happiness and the progress of mankind rages.

A soldier's thanks to the creators of this outstanding production, which tells millions of people the truth about the Great Patriotic War.

TOLUBKO ADDRESSES MISSILE FORCES CONFERENCE ON TRAINING

LD161047 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 May 79 p 2 LD

[Report by Col Engr A. Belousov: "Improve the Work Style"]

[Text] A military scientific conference on matters relating to the further improvement of forms and methods of personnel training and education was held at the main headquarters and directorates of the Strategic Missile Forces commander-in-chief. Reports were delivered by Col Gen P. Gorchakov, Military Council member and chief of the missile forces Political Directorate, and Col Gen A. Melekhin, missile forces deputy commander-in-chief for combat training.

The conference noted the heightened demands made by the CPSU Central Committee in terms of ideological and political education work and improving its effectiveness and quality. The conference participants made a number of proposals aimed at improving the work style of commanders, political organizers and headquarters and party and Komsomol organizations in instilling in the missile troops a communist world outlook and lofty moral, political and combat qualities.

Much attention was devoted to questions relating to the comprehensive approach to the solution of ideological and educational tasks. Work experience in insuring the close unity of the personnel's political, military and moral education was shared by Maj P. Petrenko, deputy commander of the unit that initiated socialist competition in the missile forces.

The conference participants were addressed by army General V. Tolubko, commander-in-chief of Strategic Missile Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense.